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House votes to impeach Clinton

President vows to remain in office

By JEFF BARAK

WASHINGTON - The US House of Representatives yesterday voted to impeach President Bill Clinton on two of four articles of impeachment: perjury in his grand jury testimony (Article 1) and obstruction of justice (Article 3). He was not impeached on charges of perjury in the Paula Jones case (Article 2) and of abuse of power (Article 4).

US public divided, Page 2
'Sexual McCarthyism', Page 3

Clinton is only the second US president to be impeached. The dramatic import of the moment was also heightened by the fact that, as the House voted, US and British forces continued their air attack against Iraq.

The clearest vote for impeachment came on Article 1, with a 228 to 206 vote in favor. Five Democrats crossed party lines to support the article, while five



President Bill Clinton reads a statement outside the Oval Office yesterday. (Reuters)

Republicans also broke ranks and voted against.

Article 3 passed the House 221 to 212, while Article 2 was defeated 229 to 205, and Article 4 fell 285 to 148.

Clinton vowed to continue to do his job as president hours after being impeached, and said he still

wants to find a "constitutional and fair" means to resolve the current crisis.

"I want the American people to know today that I am still committed to working with people of good faith and good will of both parties to do what's best for our country to bring our nation together, to lift our people up, to move us all forward together," Clinton said in remarks in the White House Rose Garden.

"It's what I tried to do for six years, it's what I intend to do for two more until the last hour of the last day of my term," Clinton said. Surrounded by dozens of Democratic defenders, he ignored calls for his resignation in the face of impeachment. Joining calls for an end to bitter partisanship, he declared, "We must stop the politics of personal destruction."

Lawmakers broke into applause as the president walked to the microphone on the South Lawn, with his wife Hillary on his arm.

House Minority Leader Richard Gephardt set the tone. "We've just witnessed a partisan vote that was a disgrace to our country and our Constitution," Gephardt said.

See CLINTON, Page 2



House Judiciary chairman Henry Hyde (right) hands the articles of impeachment last night to Senate secretary Gary Sisco. (Reuters)

Unscripted drama in Washington

By JOANNE KENEN

WASHINGTON (Reuters) - When all was said and done, it took 12 minutes and 40 seconds yesterday for the US House of Representatives to impeach President William Jefferson Clinton.

It would be another two or three minutes until the vote was formally announced and the House had yet to consider three more articles of impeachment.

But once the magic number 218, representing a majority of the House, flashed in orange

lights on the tally board above the chamber, it was over. A handful of Republicans clapped, then stopped when nobody joined in.

"The ayes are 228. The nays are 206. Article 1 is adopted," announced Illinois Republican Ray LaHood, who has presided over the historic debate.

In an odd way, the vote was simultaneously momentous and anticlimactic.

Positions had been taken, opinions hardened. No one seriously thought the hours of repetitive speedtalking - for it was not really much of a debate - would change any minds.

Besides, people were exhausted by the time they voted, using words like "surreal" and "unbelievable" and "shell-shocked" to describe this astonishing, exhilarating, horrifying, and exhausting week in Congress.

The president was impeached, the nation attacked Iraq, and Speaker-elect Bob Livingston, in an admission provoked by an investigation by a skin magazine, confessed to adultery and tendered his resignation even before his first day in office.

See DRAMA, Page 2

Articles of impeachment

ARTICLE 1: Approved 228-206.
Alleges President Bill Clinton "willfully provided perjurious, false, and misleading testimony" before Independent Counsel Kenneth Starr's grand jury on August 17.

ARTICLE 2: Rejected 229-205.
Alleges Clinton "willfully provided perjurious, false, and misleading testimony" in sworn, written answers on December 23, 1997, and during his videotaped testimony on January 17, 1998, in the sexual harassment lawsuit filed by Paula Jones.

ARTICLE 3: Approved 221-212.
Alleges Clinton "prevented, obstructed, and

impeded the administration of justice and has to that end engaged personally, and through his subordinates and agents, in a course of conduct or scheme designed to delay, impede, cover up and conceal the existence of evidence and testimony" related to the Jones case. The article lists seven alleged acts of obstruction of justice.

ARTICLE 4: Rejected 285-148.
Alleges that Clinton "engaged in conduct that resulted in misuse and abuse of his high office." It says he "willfully made perjurious, false, and misleading sworn statements" in his written responses to some of the 81 questions posed by the House Judiciary Committee. (AP)

Barak, Leah Rabin woo Shahak

By LIAT COLLINS

Although she is not considering running in the political race, Leah Rabin seems determined to remain involved.

Last night the widow of slain prime minister Yitzhak Rabin hosted both Labor Party leader Ehud Barak and former chief of General Staff Amnon Lipkin-Shahak to a Hanukkah gathering at her home, apparently in an attempt to get Shahak to join Labor rather than any new centrist party.

Shahak, who is still on separation leave from the IDF, served at one time as deputy chief of General Staff under Barak. Barak has also called on Shahak to join Labor.

Surveys by pollster Mina Tzema published Friday show Shahak leading Barak in a race for prime minister, even though he has not yet stated what platform, party, or policies he supports.

Last week Meretz whip Haim Oron called on Shahak "to come out into the open and say who he is."

Both Shahak and Likud MK Dan Meridor will reportedly announce their intentions after Monday's Knesset vote on early elections.

Shahak faces a cooling-off period of 100 days after he is officially demobilized and before he can run, so he is likely to cut short his leave.

Despite the media hype leading up to what is being nicknamed "Super Monday" in the Knesset, the excitement element has been lost, particularly since the Third Way announced Thursday that it would support going to the polls.

The main question now is whether Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu and the Likud will

announce they support the opposition-led bill for the dissolution of the Knesset and early elections or will initiate a bill of their own to the same end.

The current bill - coming up for first reading - is by Oron and Labor's Haim Ramon.

Netanyahu attended a soccer match last night at Teddy Stadium in Jerusalem, in an appearance widely interpreted as an unofficial kickoff of his reelection campaign. "The basic strength of this people is that it wants a strong government and a strong prime minister to win," Netanyahu told Israel Radio while at the stadium. "And I know we will continue and will receive the mandate from the people."

Netanyahu plans to present the cabinet today with a list of conditions that the Palestinians must fulfill before the government agrees to continue with the Wye implementation.

The cabinet is expected to approve the conditions, in which case the list will be presented to the Knesset tomorrow. Netanyahu has said that if he is not backed by the Knesset on these conditions, he will officially call for new elections.

The conditions are: the cessation of violence and incitement, an end to all unilateral statements of intent to declare statehood on May 4, a reduction of the police force, a collection of all illegal weapons, and an end to the demand for the release of jailed Hamas members or murderers.

The other significant question is when elections would take place. The date lottery has begun, with calls ranging from the end of February to mid-June. Among the considerations concerning the date are holidays and the May 4 expiration of the Oslo Accords on which Palestinian Authority Yasser Arafat has said he will declare a Palestinian state.

4th night of air strikes on Saddam

By ARIEH O'SULLIVAN and news agencies

US and British forces launched a fourth night of air strikes against Iraq yesterday, the first night of Islam's holy month of Ramadan, as Baghdad vowed to resist down to its "last citizen."

In Tel Aviv, the defense establishment is meeting every six hours to

Iraqis hunker down, Page 4

determine the level of alert in the country. As of now, the public is called upon to update their masks but not to prepare sealed rooms or carry their masks with them.

"We aren't talking of any emergency measures, but of the need to be prepared," said Deputy Chief of General Staff Maj.-Gen. Uzi Dayan. "This need exists throughout the year and is now a situation where we have to be ready. Whoever hasn't prepared themselves yet, now is the chance."

"If matters change, then we will raise the state of readiness and the alert," Dayan said during a weekend visit to a Patriot anti-missile battery near Tel Aviv. He stressed there is no need for concern at this time.

In Washington, officials said Clinton's impeachment would have no effect on the air strikes, which began on Wednesday after UN weapons inspectors accused Iraq of flouting their efforts to destroy its weapons of mass destruction.

"The operation is going to continue until the president decides it has been completed," US Defense Secretary William Cohen told a Pentagon news conference. "It's still under way."

Cohen said the attacks, aimed at Iraq's chemical, biological, and nuclear weapons and its ability to



US Marines dig a mortar position on the Persian Gulf near the Iraqi border yesterday. (AP)

deliver them, had set back Iraq's missile development program by a year and hit its military command and control system hard.

"This network of communications, intelligence, and propaganda, and security service headquarters" has been significantly damaged," he said.

Iraqi Vice President Taha Yassin Ramadan told a news conference yesterday: "I tell you all that Iraq will continue to defend its land, policy, and dignity. We will fight until the last citizen."

Bristling with defiance, and dressed in military fatigues, he said the mission of UN inspectors charged with destroying Iraq's weapons of mass destruction is over.

"Anything related to inspections, monitoring, and weapons of mass

destruction is behind us. If they believe these [weapons] are there, they have already hit them all."

Ramadan told reporters in Baghdad, charging that the inspectors were "a commission of spies."

In Washington, Cohen dismissed the statement, saying lifting UN sanctions imposed over Iraq's invasion of Kuwait in 1990 depends on full compliance with UN resolutions. That would require UN inspectors to return and complete their job.

Senior security sources in Israel said that, after successive nights of bombardment, Iraqi President Saddam Hussein is behaving as if he is not seriously threatened - and therefore Israel is not under increased threat.

The senior security source inter-

preted the taped address by Saddam televised Friday night, in which he vowed he would not capitulate, as an attempt by the Iraqi leader to "keep his head down" until the US and British attack is over.

The source said the fact that Saddam did not mention Israel in his address means that he still believes this is not an extreme scenario threatening his life or that his control is in jeopardy.

The assessment in the defense establishment remains that Saddam has only half a dozen Scud launchers and between 30 and 50 missiles, and he would only shoot them as a "parting gift" to Israel when he feels his own end is near.

See SADDAM, Page 2

Defenses deployed against 'Drones of Death'

By ARIEH O'SULLIVAN and DOUGLAS DAVIS

The air force has deployed its Hawk anti-aircraft missile batteries and Patriot missiles not only to hit at possible incoming Iraqi Scuds, but to shoot down Iraqi pilotless planes capable of spraying anthrax or other deadly germs on Israel.

In London, British Defense Secretary George Robertson said at a news conference that Tornado fighter-bombers, in coordination with US jets, destroyed a hangar housing Czech-built Aero-L29 trainers.

These remote-controlled trainers, dubbed "Drones of Death," have been outfitted with two underwing pods capable of containing up to 300 liters of anthrax or other biological agents.

Chief of Britain's Defense Staff Gen. Sir Charles Guthrie said Iraq is believed to have more than a dozen of the pilotless drones which, with aerosol or crop-spraying attachments, have the ability to spread anthrax over a wide area.

"How far the program was, I am not sure," he told a press conference at the Defense Ministry in London, "but we do know that it was being worked on with great urgency and was considered a high priority."

See DRONE, Page 2



See BARAK, Page 2

NEWS

in brief

Haredi man attacks judge

Jerusalem Magistrate's Court Judge Yitzhak Shimoni was attacked Friday night by a haredi man at the Sanhedria intersection in Jerusalem. The judge was lightly injured, but was not hospitalized.

Shimoni, who was driving home with his son, stopped at the intersection to turn onto a road open to traffic, when the haredi man blocked his way. The assailant then rushed the car and spat at the judge and struck him. Two policemen who came to the judge's aid were also attacked.

Haredim assault cafe customers

A group of haredim threw eggs and a stone at customers of the Aroma Cafe in Jerusalem's German Colony yesterday, injuring one woman. Two of the assailants were arrested. The incident began with about 30 haredim approaching the crowded cafe, shouting "Shabbos" at those inside. The startled customers were then suddenly attacked with a barrage of eggs and at least one stone. The injured woman was reportedly struck in the eye by an egg.

Woman killed, five hurt in chain collision

Saida Latifa, 50, of Umm el Ganem village was killed and five people were injured last night in a multiple car collision between the Yizre'el interchange and Afula.

The accident happened when a truck with Palestinian Authority license plates swerved from its lane and hit two oncoming cars head on.

Latifa, a passenger in one of the cars, was killed and two others, including the truck driver, were severely injured. Three other people were lightly injured. All the injured were taken to Ha'emek Hospital in Afula.

Swedish tourists evacuated from Eilat

About 200 tourists from Sweden were evacuated over the weekend from Eilat, due to the US and British air strikes on Iraq. They were flown home by a subsidiary of the same airline that saw to the evacuation of about 500 British tourists from Eilat on Thursday.

Man demands return of brother's organs

James Sinclair, the brother of Scottish tourist Alisdair Sinclair, is to hold a news conference today at 10 a.m. outside the Institute for Forensic Medicine in Abu Kabir, where he will demand his brother's organs be returned before Christmas.

Sinclair's body was found in a remand cell at Ben-Gurion Airport on April 14, a few hours after his arrest. The forensic institute ascertained he committed suicide, but his family believe he was beaten to death by police. A second autopsy in Scotland revealed that his internal organs and heart were missing.

DRAMA

Continued from Page 1

"Today has a sort of black-and-white film noir feeling, you know, very grainy, and a feeling almost like a Costa-Gavras movie or something, maybe Fellini," Ohio Representative Dennis Kucinich said after a pep rally with Hillary Rodham Clinton, who told the Democrats how much she loves the man whose political life they were trying to salvage.

Most of what passes for drama and passion in Congress is actually carefully scripted. That was not the case yesterday.

When Livingston took the floor and began demanding Clinton's resignation, Democrats shouted, "NO, NO, NO!" Then Maxine Waters, a liberal California Democrat who was sort of a one-woman guerrilla theater during the House Judiciary Committee impeachment proceedings, slapped her hand on one of the long wooden tables in the chamber and shouted at Livingston, "You resign."

Some of her colleagues took up the chant, "Resign. Resign. Resign," only to be stunned into silence when seconds later he did. "It was like a punch in the stomach," said New York Republican Peter King. "Some members were actually crying on the House floor."

"I was standing. Then I sat. I was shell-shocked," said Lindsay Graham, a South Carolina Republican.

Many lawmakers gathered in hallways and lobbies, wondering what would happen next. "This is all so overwhelming," said Michael Castle, a Delaware

Republican. "There have been so many bombshells. We have bombshells in the House of Representatives."

"I have no idea how we are going to heal," said Vic Fazio, a California Democrat retiring at the end of the month. "It's not the time for more carnage here."

Tom DeLay of Texas, the Republican Whip who has led his party on this impeachment march, is about as tough as they come in Washington. Even his friends call him "The Hammer." But he choked up and seemed near tears, as he spoke about his friend Bob Livingston.

The Democrats, in their own bid for drama, stormed out of the chamber when they were denied, as expected, a procedural vote on censure as an alternative to impeachment.

They streamed down the majestic marble steps of the Capitol, getting cheers from the mostly anti-impeachment crowd lined up waiting to get in to see the proceedings. But the walkout was brief.

"Of course we're going back in," said New York Democrat Jerrold Nadler. "We don't want them to pass [impeachment] unanimously."

Outside the chamber, it was a scene of controlled chaos. Police led snaking lines of tourists into the visitors' gallery, and throngs of reporters tripped over their portable computer bags and plastic trays with discarded salads and French fries that no one had time to eat.

"I've seen busier days than this — like the State of the Union," said one Capitol police officer. "But it's never felt like this before. Now it's like we've got a guillotine."

trial, in which Chief Justice William Rehnquist will sit as presiding officer and the 100 senators as jurors. No date has yet been set.

It would be the first such proceeding since Andrew Johnson escaped being removed from office by a single vote 130 years ago.

According to Clinton spokesman Joe Lockhart, Clinton did not watch the first article vote on television, although he was informed immediately of the results. He did watch the rest of the voting, however. He spent the morning in the Oval Office with one of his spiritual advisers.

"He's very upbeat and confident that things will work out, but he's very tired," Rev. Tony Campolo told

US public divided over House vote

By MICHAEL CONLON

CHICAGO (Reuters) — A divided nation yesterday expressed condemnation and hang-in-there support for the man they twice elected president as they watched Bill Clinton impeached on charges of perjury and obstruction of justice.

Random street interviews with people from New York to California turned up a scattering of those who thought Clinton should resign, but more who felt he should stay on as the stage shifts to the US Senate in the sex-and-lies scandal.

"What Clinton did is despicable, terribly immoral, but there was no grounds for impeachment," said Rita Haverkamp, 78, a Cincinnati housewife Christmas shopping at a suburban mall.

"If he can tough it out, he's a braver man than I'd be. I think the Senate will stop short of removing him," she added, saying Clinton should stay in office.

At Hal's Harley-Davidson dealership in New Berlin, Wisconsin, Kathi Harrington of

Milwaukee said, "He should hang in there. It's been a witch hunt. We all have ghosts in our closet, unfortunately his came out. There are more important issues we have to deal with in this country."

But at that same shop Jodi Polotowski of South Milwaukee said, "He should resign given the embarrassment to the country."

He lied. We should get someone in there who could get the job done with dignity, someone we can trust."

And in Chicago James Collura, a tourist from Nebraska who was sight-seeing at the Sears Tower, said, "The honorable thing would be for him to resign. I'm going by the American legal system. You or I couldn't get by with what he did."

Outside Independence Hall in Philadelphia, where Congress was given its Constitutional impeachment powers 211 years ago, Laurie Josephson, a tourist from South Carolina said "The House did the right thing."

"I have been a Democrat all my life, and a big supporter of Clinton. But what he's done

and the place he did it and the way he did it, shows a blatant disregard for the office," she said.

But Lisa Quagliani of Hershey, Pennsylvania, said, "The whole matter is between him, his wife and his family, and it's been completely blown out of proportion."

RW Fessenden, 60, a retired hardware store owner from Blue Ash, Ohio: "I think they ought to get that rascal out of office as soon as they can. He's a liar and a thief. It's against his nature to tell the truth."

But John Espano, 40, of Hayward, California, said Clinton should not do what Livingston did — "He's doing a good job, and I think the Republicans are overreacting." A New York Times-CBS News poll published yesterday found that about two-thirds of those quizzed were opposed to impeachment and that six in 10 thought the Republicans who control Congress were out of touch with the people.

It also found that about 40 percent polled believe Clinton should resign rather than prolong the inquest in the Senate.

Senate leader to begin trial steps

WASHINGTON (Reuters) — US Senate majority leader Trent Lott said yesterday he would begin the formal steps toward a trial of President Bill Clinton on the impeachment charges against him.

"There are steps that precede the beginning of an impeachment trial. Once the Senate is organized as an impeachment proceeding, there will be pleadings and motions that come before the taking of evidence," Lott said in a statement issued minutes after the House of Representatives approved two articles of impeachment against Clinton.

"The decision by the House of Representatives concerning the conduct of the president sets in motion a solemn process in the Senate of the United States," Lott said, adding it is not yet clear when any trial will begin.

Under the US Constitution, the 100-member Senate can conduct a trial of Clinton on the articles of impeachment, charging him with perjury and obstruction of justice. Only a two-thirds majority of the Senate, or 67 votes, can convict Clinton and remove him from office.

Republicans now hold a 55 to 45 majority in the Senate, but are unlikely to secure enough Democratic votes to convict Clinton in order to oust him.

Critics have warned that a Senate trial could paralyze the US government for months. But Lott said that even if a prolonged trial is necessary, the Senate will continue to work on other issues such as education, taxes, and reforming the US social security system.

BARAK

Continued from Page 1

MK Ruby Rivlin (Likud) told Channel 2 the election campaign would be centered around one issue: "Who would you prefer to handle the negotiations for the final-status arrangements?"

Labor's Uzi Baram, however, said the central question would be: "The type of government: its credibility, norms, and behavior."

Meanwhile, MK Azmi Bishara (Hadasah-Bilad) has called on all the Arab parties to run on one list. The list would be comprised of different factions, and the head of the list would also run for prime minister, he said.

Danna Harman and AP contributed to this report.



Democratic congressmen, led by minority leader Richard Gephardt (front, center), leave the House yesterday in protest over the Republicans blocking a vote for censure as an alternative to impeachment.

SADDAM

Continued from Page 1

When the US and British attack began, there were some in the defense establishment who urged that a decision be made to instruct the public to seal rooms and carry their ABC (atomic, biological, and chemical) protection kits with them. But they were overruled, senior defense sources said.

The Home Front Command reopened 66 gas mask distribution centers across the country last night after being shut for Shabbat.

The public has appeared to take the latest crisis in stride. Only some 30,000 people nationwide have reported to the distribution centers since the air strikes began. The centers are capable of dealing with some 350,000 people a day at peak running.

A senior Home Front Command officer said that over one million Israelis are still registered without updated protection.

He said that 82 percent of those living in the Scud target areas had updated their protective kits, compared to just 62 percent last February.

For the time being, it has been decided not to distribute any antibiotics for the deadly anthrax virus or other germ warfare.

CNN after his meeting with the president.

Livingston, who on Thursday admitted he had occasionally "strayed from my marriage," yesterday stunned the House by announcing he would resign.

House Judiciary Committee chairman Henry Hyde talked of "confusion between private acts of infidelity and public acts," such as lying under oath. Hyde called the president a "serial violator of oath." Gephardt, meanwhile, called Livingston a "worthy and good and honorable man." Gephardt went on to blast public intrusion into the private affairs of politicians.

The Democrats tried to put off the impeachment vote by pushing through a motion to recommit, calling for censure. But this was ruled out of order by impeachment debate chairman Ray LaHood, whose ruling won a 230 to 204 majority against a Democratic appeal.

After the vote, Democratic representatives made their way to the White House for a demonstrative huddle of support with the presi-

senior defense sources said.

But the Home Front Command has called up some reserves and others have been put on standby alert should the situation worsen.

American supplies continued to arrive here. On Thursday eight US Air Force cargo planes, including a Galaxy C5, touched down at Ben-Gurion Airport carrying special equipment, including monitors for the detection of a chemical attack.

Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Gen. Henry Shelton said that all US pilots and airmen had returned safely from their missions. In Baghdad, an Iraqi official said earlier that 68 Iraqi citizens had died in the raids.

Ramadan said 12 students died when a missile hit a college dormitory early yesterday. He charged that, as a result of attacks, "the number of martyrs among civilians is dozens of times higher than that of military personnel." He gave no figures.

Clinton used his weekly radio address yesterday to make the case for the raids against Iraq.

"Our long term strategy is clear. First, we stand ready to use force again if Saddam takes threatening action, such as seeking to reconstitute his weapons of mass destruction, menacing his neighbors or his own Kurdish citizens, or challenging allied aircraft," Clinton said.

Outside the White House, there was a small crowd of 30 or so demonstrators, seemingly oblivious to the impeachment vote. They were calling on the president, in alternate chants, to stop the bombing in Iraq and to free Leonard Peltier, a native American convicted of murder in 1973.

There was also a handful of people calling on Clinton to resign. "The president should resign, because he's a liar, can't be trusted, and disgraced the office of the presidency," said Kristinn Taylor, from Washington, DC.

Disagreeing was Jason Lusk, from Milwaukee: "The world is too dangerous a place for the Republicans to take their personal vengeance that they've always had against the president and attempt to turn it into policy," he said.

After the vote, Republican leaders immediately walked across the Capitol to deliver impeachment papers to the Senate.

News agencies contributed to this report.

CORRECTION

In Friday's feature on Page 16 entitled, "Amid haredi dreams of changing society's face, secularism, rules the day," the quotes and references to Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu should have been attributed to National Religious Party MK Yigal Bibi.

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With deep sorrow I announce the passing of my mother

NATALIE (Natasha) FRENKLEY

The funeral will take place today at Kibbutz Geshar Haziv at 3 p.m.

Shiva at Rehov Hamavdil 10, Ramat Gan.

Helen Frenkley

Livingston stuns House by stepping down as Speaker

By ALAN FRAM

WASHINGTON (AP) — Stunning the House of Representatives on the day it would vote to impeach President Bill Clinton, Rep. Bob Livingston announced yesterday he would not serve as the chamber's next Speaker and will leave Congress next year. He apologized for his past extramarital affairs.

"I must set the example that I hope President Clinton will follow... I will not stand for Speaker of the House on January 6, but rather will remain as backbencher in this Congress that I so dearly love," Livingston said as the House fell silent. He said he would quit Congress after six months.

"I was prepared to lead our narrow majority as Speaker and I believe I had... to do a fine job, but I cannot do that job," Livingston said.

Livingston, 55, was nominated without opposition to succeed Newt Gingrich as Speaker on November 18. Gingrich had stunned the House with his resignation on November 7.

Members of both parties seemed shocked by the announcement, but then stood to give the Louisiana Republican an ovation.

The White House, too, was stunned. "I don't know anything about it. I'm not going to react. It's a matter for the House," said the White House press secretary.

Livingston revealed over the weekend that he had "on occasion strayed from my marriage."

He said he planned to vote to impeach the president. He also apologized to members of Congress and his family. "I have hurt you all deeply and beg your forgiveness," he said.

Livingston was one of Louisiana's first Republican congressional representatives since the 19th century. Elected in 1977, he built a reputation as a low-profile negotiator.

Livingston made his announcement after rumors hurried around the Capitol about details of the affair. He met with several conservatives who were rethinking their support.

"We ought to ask questions... rather than circle the wagons for one of our tribe," Rep. Mark Sanford said in an interview.

Rep. Spencer Bachus also said Republicans should re-examine Livingston's fitness to be Speaker. "You can't criticize the president's behavior as being unacceptable and then not consider this as material, just ignore this and brush it aside," he said.

Livingston's problem was intensified by the narrow Republican margin in the next House: just 223-211, plus one independent who usually votes



Rep. Bob Livingston leaves the House floor yesterday after announcing he would not serve as House Speaker and would resign from the House next year. (AP)

with Democrats. If just six Republicans had refused to support him for Speaker, he would have lacked the 218 votes needed to be elected — assuming the Democrats and independent vote against him.

Outside the chamber, many Republicans — and some Democrats — said Livingston's infidelities were a personal matter and he remained qualified to become speaker. Livingston said his wife of 33

years, Bonnie, and his four grown children have forgiven him. "I think they're none of our business," Rep. David Obey, a Democrat, said of the infidelities. Other Democrats, however, said the episode showed Republican inconsistency in judging Clinton and Livingston.

By DEBORAH ZABARENKO

WASHINGTON (Reuters) — Admitted adulterer Bob Livingston's resignation from the top job in the US House provided stark evidence yesterday of what some in Congress slammed as "sexual McCarthyism."

Defenders of President Bill Clinton have long claimed a Republican witch-hunt — not unlike the anti-communist inquests launched by Sen. Joe McCarthy in the 1950s — was responsible for pushing for Clinton's impeachment for his handling of the Monica Lewinsky affair.

But now, with Congress voting on four impeachment counts against Clinton, Republicans were feeling the sting of sexual politics. Representative Jerrold Nadler, a New York Democrat who has defended Clinton, criticized Livingston's resignation as "a surrender to a developing sexual McCarthyism."

"Are we going to have a new test if someone wants to run for public office: are you now or have you ever been an adulterer?" Nadler said, paraphrasing a question posed to suspected communists in the McCarthy era.

"We are losing sight of the distinction between sins, which ought to be between a person and his family and his god, and crimes, which are the concern of the state

and of society as a whole."

Representative Dick Gephardt, the ranking Democrat in the House, said such a poisonous atmosphere would keep good candidates from serving in government.

"No one standing in this house today can pass a puritanical test of purity that some are demanding that our elected leaders take," the Missouri congressman said after Livingston resigned. "We are now rapidly descending into a politics where life imitates farce, fratricide dominates our public debate and America is held hostage to tactics of smear and fear."

Livingston was not the first figure in the scandal drama to be "outed" for infidelity.

Representative Henry Hyde, the silver-haired Illinois Republican who presided over the House Judiciary Committee hearings that returned the impeachment counts, was earlier also pressured by the media to admit he had had a five-year-long "youthful indiscretion" with a married woman.

"Those of us who are sinners must feel especially wretched today, losing Bob Livingston under such sad circumstances," Hyde said. "One's self-esteem gets utterly crushed at times like this."

Representative Helen Chenoweth of Idaho and Representative Dan Burton of Indiana, both

Republicans, also came forward with tales of extramarital dalliances.

Clinton himself went on national television at the start of his first presidential campaign in 1992 to acknowledge causing "pain in my marriage." He got elected twice anyway.

A coalition of feminists, who have long supported Clinton's stand on such issues as abortion rights and domestic violence, have blamed the impeachment drive on "sexual McCarthyism," and feminist icon Gloria Steinem used the same term when referring to Clinton's situation.

Alan Dershowitz, a Harvard Law School professor and well-known defense lawyer, wrote a book called *Sexual McCarthyism*, and spoke with seeming prescience about what the concept meant in a televised interview on CNN last June.

"The Speaker of the House clearly should be removed if he engaged in the kind of sexual misconduct that the president engaged in," Dershowitz said, adding that the same would apply to a corporate chief or a law school professor.

So why should a president not be removed? "Because the president is a branch of government, and because the Constitution provides a unique remedy for getting rid of a president — not for a Speaker. A Speaker can be booted if you just don't like how he looks."

Hillary Clinton issues reconciliation plea

By VICKI ALLEN

WASHINGTON (Reuters) — As the House of Representatives prepared to vote on impeaching her husband yesterday, First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton rallied dispirited Democrats, telling them she loved her husband and that he would not resign from office.

On a momentous day in the nation's history, Mrs. Clinton spoke at a Democratic caucus moments before Democrats went to the House floor in a futile effort to stop the House from taking its second vote to impeach a president.

"She came to say through her appearance, 'we will not quit, we will not give up.' And I agree with her, to resign in the wake of an unfair impeachment process would send a terrible message to future generations," Representative Chet Edwards of Texas said after the



Clinton: We will not quit. (AP)

closed caucus.

"To me as a husband, I thought the most moving statement she made was 'I love and care deeply about my husband,'" Edwards told reporters.

Mrs. Clinton has been unusually

quiet in recent weeks as the House vote loomed on articles to impeach her husband on allegations he lied under oath to conceal an affair with former White House intern Monica Lewinsky.

She did not speak to reporters and entered and left the House office building discreetly through a side door.

Applause and cheers could be heard from the closed room, and lawmakers told reporters afterward that she had been inspiring in her strength and resolve.

Hours later the House passed two of four articles to impeach Clinton on almost a straight party-line vote, sending the issue to the Senate which would need a two-thirds majority to remove Clinton from office. The vote took place as the United States and Britain began a fourth day of air strikes against Iraq.

From an affair to impeachment

By CONNIE CASS

WASHINGTON (AP) — By the time groggy Americans were jolted awake by the morning news last January 21 — "Monica who?" — impeachment may already have been inevitable.

Although no one knew it then, an unlikely series of circumstances had set in motion the events that would tumble forward one after the other, like so many dominoes, through the rest of the year.

The Supreme Court had ruled that Paula Jones could sue a sitting president. The trial judge had allowed her lawyers to question President Clinton about other women.

Instead of ending the lawsuit through an embarrassing settlement, Clinton answered their questions about Lewinsky, denying any "sexual relations."

"It was a political decision," said law professor Paul Rice of American University. "It certainly wasn't a good decision to lie."

By the time Clinton raised his right hand and swore to tell the whole truth in the Jones lawsuit on January 17, his nemesis — Whitewater prosecutor Kenneth Starr — already was secretly investigating the Lewinsky affair.

The personalities of the key players, and twists of fate, propelled the scandal forward:

Finger wagging

Perhaps Clinton could have headed off the crisis if he had come clean immediately and sought forgiveness. Instead, on January 26, he looked into the TV cameras, wagged his finger and declared, "I did not have sexual relations with that woman, Miss Lewinsky."

The dress

Clinton admitted "inappropriate intimate contact" only after Lewinsky had begun cooperating with prosecutors and turned over a stained dress bearing his DNA. "It was the smoking gun," said Rice. Until then, many Clinton allies were questioning the former

intern's motives and even her hold on reality.

Grand jury

Legal scholars argued over whether Starr could compel the president to appear before a grand jury. But Clinton, under tremendous political pressure, agreed to testify on August 17.

He admitted an intimate relationship but refused to give details, insisting his statements in the Jones case were "legally accurate."

The four-hour videotaped testimony stirred little public emotion but became the basis of an article of impeachment. The House said he lied about his testimony in the Jones case and his efforts to cover up the affair.

Apologies

Within hours of speaking to the grand jurors, the president appeared on national TV. He admitted a relationship that was "not appropriate" and expressed regret for misleading his family and the nation. Sounding more defiant than remorseful, he vented his anger at Starr.

Even Democrats condemned the president's behavior. Subsequent apologies also were deemed too little, too late.

Starr report

On September 9, the independent counsel told Congress he had found "substantial and credible evidence" of offenses that might warrant impeachment. The House quickly released Starr's detailed, sexually graphic report — though pants, cigar and all. Less than a month later, the House officially

began its impeachment inquiry.

An election

When Democrats picked up five House seats, and House Speaker Newt Gingrich was forced from his post, many pundits declared impeachment dead. Polls showed the public wanted the inquiry over. The White House lapsed into a false sense of security. But the Republican majority, spurred by religious conservatives, pressed on.

81 questions

It may have been the president's last missed chance to head off impeachment.

His written reply to 81 questions from the Judiciary Committee seemed evasive and overly legalistic. Republicans, including some still looking for a reason to support Clinton, fumed.

"They considered it thumbing his nose at Congress," Hess said. The answers became the basis for the fourth article of impeachment.

'60s culture clash underlies impeachment battle

ANALYSIS

By MICHAEL POWELL

WASHINGTON — It's about the law, the law and nothing but the law. Judiciary Committee Chairman Henry Hyde once more attempts to exorcise all this talk of culture wars and the Revenge of Watergate.

"The people's trust has been betrayed," Hyde insists. "That and nothing other than that is the issue before this House."

Well, not really. Few are buying that argument. Not the Republicans and the Democrats, who as they debated impeachment hearkened again and again to that trinity of generational touchstones — Watergate, Vietnam and the 1960s.

Nor their conservative and liberal cheerleaders, who view presidential desire and perjury through a grand lens of generational and cultural conflict.

"It would be an enormous emetic — culturally, politically, morally — for us to have an impeachment," says the Rev. John Neuhaus, who edits the conservative magazine *First Things*. "It would purge us."

So impeachment informs the larger cultural war. The battle to dethrone Bill Clinton takes its place in the ongoing Boomer War, a three-decade struggle to define our culture and control our history and symbols.

The effort to exorcise the demons of the 1960s has been going on for 30 years, says Jackson Lears, a professor of history at Rutgers University. "The impeachment is the latest act of the psychodrama."

"This cultural war is very much a boomer phenomenon," adds Neil Howe, who studies generational history and co-authored *Generations: The History of America's Future*. "We've long held that we are holders of vision and values. So it's not surprising that we cast impeachment as about the soul and character of our leader."

The boomers ever have walked loudly through the night. This generation fought pitched battles over Vietnam and civil rights, and its hormonal rollicks effected a sexual revolution.

There was a revolution in social mores and in drugs, and their yearning to break every mold gave birth to a supercharged capitalism.

Box suits go designer label; the hierarchical Power Elite of the 1950s — the company men — yield to the status-sniffing Cultural Elite of the 1980s and 1990s.

And still the conflicts over values simmer, in battles over Supreme Court nominations — Robert Bork and Clarence Thomas — over

masturbation and abortion, over record labels and gangsta rap.

Neither side disguises its broader discontent with the other. And they share a cultural warrior's lust for control of language and symbol. Entire battles are fought over terms such as Watergate.

This is not Watergate! The Democrats cry. Where's the subversion of law, the burglary, the misuse of FBI and CIA?

To which Republicans reply: Nixon never lied under oath.

The *National Review*, that conservative bible, attributes public indifference about impeachment to a womanly "sogginess" that pervades our culture and "undermines masculine intractability that serves as a bulwark for republicanism."

Rep. Lamar Smith, a Republican from Texas, suggests on the floor of the House that we must impeach to "set an example for our children and grandchildren."

And Bork, in defense of independent prosecutor Kenneth Starr, suggests this week it would not be a bad thing at all to "kill off the lax moral spirit of the Sixties."

The Democrats reply with their own narrative, of a Congress controlled by small-minded Babbitts who would transfigure human failing into high crime and misdemeanor. Where in this impeachment muddle, they ask, is the moral urgency of the Watergate investigation and the struggle against the Vietnam War?

"Liberals and conservatives have talked past each other since the 1960s," says Leo Ribuffo, a history professor at George Washington University. "When Republicans say it's about sex and law, the Democrats don't get it. When the Democrats raise Iran-Contra and the sale of arms to an enemy, the Republicans say, 'Well, that's about communism.'"

All of this cultural warring tends to spin around Clinton. It is his genius, and lament, to embody every division of our era. The Boy from Hope who is really from Hot Springs. The Bubba become Oxford scholar. The anti-war marcher who joined ROTC and eluded the draft. The family man who can't stop straying.

He's the first child of the 1960s to ascend to the presidency and he tugged the Democratic

Party resolutely to the right; he's a man of the flesh comfortable with the soaring cadences of the church; and a lock-em-up president beloved of liberal Hollywood and Jesse Jackson.

"Clinton represents a morally slippery slope to many conservatives," says historian Michael Kazin of American University. "His very conservatism, and his religious language, reeks of hypocrisy to them."

"Clinton's our Richard Nixon," says David Keene, chairman of the American Conservative Union. "Just as liberals knew that Nixon was bad, so we know in our bones that Clinton is bad. There is nothing honest about him."

That Clinton-Nixon thing may seem a bit bizarre, this comparison between this most carnal president and a repressed 1950s stiff who walked the beach in his business suit. But Nixon is perhaps the grandest of cultural totems for this boomer generation, and conservatives long to paste his 5 o'clock shadow on a Democrat.

"Bringing down Nixon was the liberals' great moment," says Howe, the generational historian. "And the Republicans know that and hate that."

Culture wars, of course, have a long lineage in this nation's history. The Civil War stands still as the great divide, a fratricidal conflict whose echoes sounded still in the 1890s. Its soldiers gained grand pensions, its generals served as presidents, and one could define much about people by knowing only if they were Republican or Democrat, Yankee or Rebel.

"As late as 1890, the Republicans were running campaigns labeling the Democrats as the party of rebellion," historian Ribuffo says. "It was cultural-politics and interest politics wrapped into one."

The 1920s represented another such surge, a river of American cultural conservatism washing against the changes wreaked by urban sophisticates and immigrants.

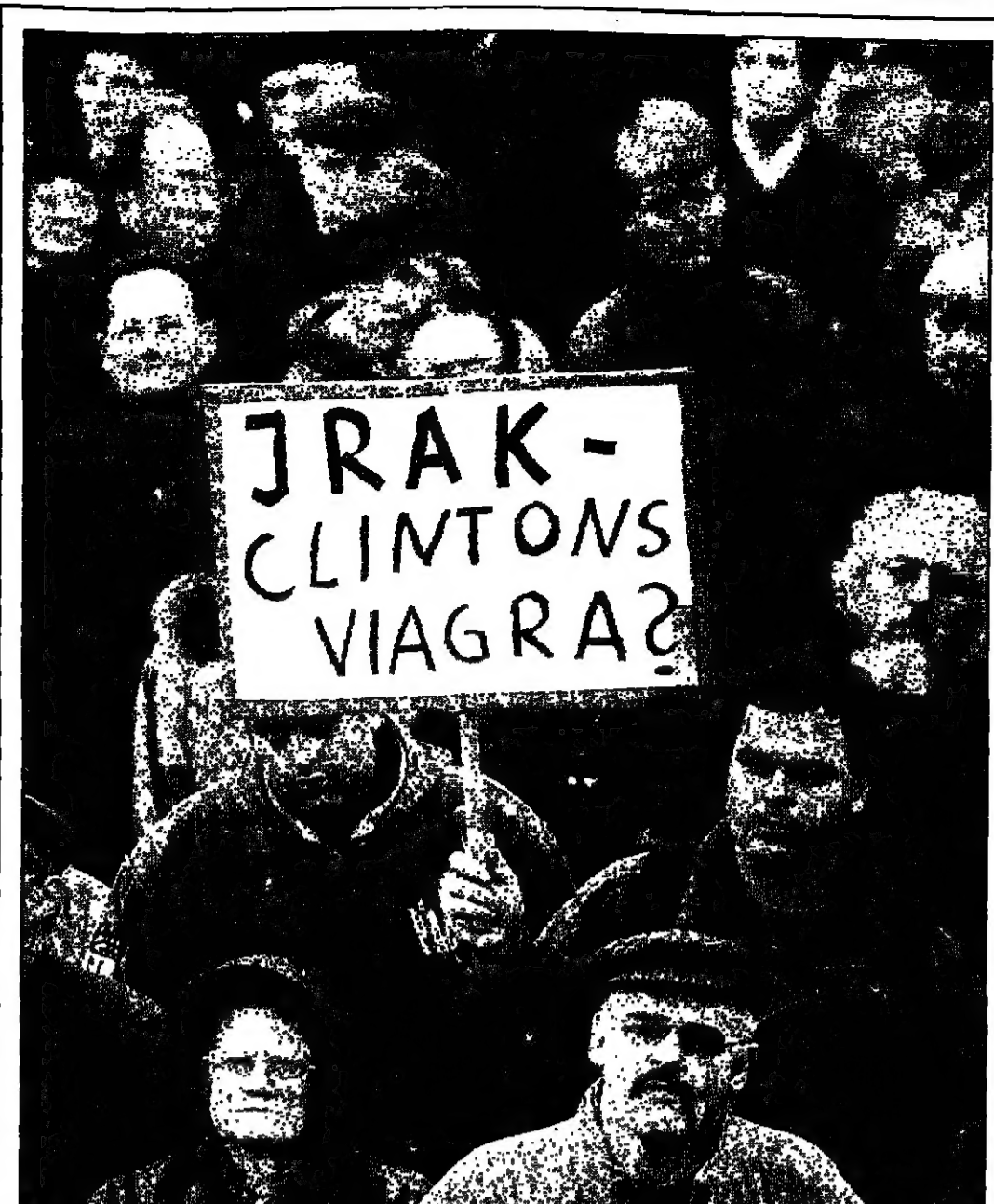
This age, often recalled in a rosy amber glow of flappers and Fitzgerald and the Jazz Age, was a time, too, of Prohibition, the Scopes trial and bitterly divisive presidential campaigns. The Lost Generation couldn't wait to escape its parochial vale and decamp for Paris.

"Cultural conflicts go very deep in this country," Howe says. "Our very character as the most modern and capitalist society means that culture looms greater for us."

(The Washington Post)

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Germans oppose attack on Iraq

Demonstrators in Berlin hold a protest yesterday against the US bombing of Iraq. The rally was organized by the Socialist Democratic Party (SDP). (AP)

Iraq says UN arms inspectors' mission over

BAGHDAD (Reuters) - Iraqi Vice-President Taha Yassin Ramadan yesterday branded UN arms inspectors a "commission of spies" and said their mission was now over.

Bristling with defiance and dressed in military fatigues, Ramadan told a news conference in Baghdad that Iraq would fight until the last man and launched a blistering attack on Arab governments for their muted reaction to the "aggression."

"The commission of spies is behind us. It has no mission," said Ramadan. "Anything related to inspections, monitoring and weapons of mass destruction is behind us. If they believe these (weapons) are there, they have already hit them all." Shortly after Ramadan's news conference at least one missile slammed into northern Baghdad and US Defense Secretary William Cohen said air attacks would continue and gave no indication that they would end.

Ramadan said US and British air strikes had targeted many sites searched repeatedly by UN Special Commission (UNSCOM) experts and which were already under a tight monitoring regime.

"What is the value of the inspections and monitoring if these same sites are then attacked?" Ramadan said, adding that he would not give any further details.

Ramadan described UNSCOM's chief Richard Butler as "a little agent" whose task was to provide the United States with cover to attack Iraq.

He said Iraq was past agreeing to having conditions imposed. "I tell you all that Iraq will continue to defend its land, policy and dignity. We will fight until the last citizen," he said.

"I cannot talk about a diplomatic position while we are at the height of the aggression. A diplomatic position is required or could be accepted before the aggression takes place." The Iraqi leader said the attacks had spread destruction

and death across the country but gave no exact casualty figures, only saying that civilian casualties were "tens of times" higher than those among military personnel.

Ramadan did, however, say that 12 students died when a missile hit a college dormitory early yesterday. Iraqis held a symbolic funeral to 68 victims which the official media said had been killed in the campaign.

The vice-president said the latest campaign strengthened the Iraqi people's trust in President Saddam Hussein whom he described as a symbol of Iraq's dignity.

While praising the Russian and Chinese stands rejecting the use of force, Ramadan denounced Arab leaders who had said little to oppose the military strikes.

"Bombs fall on Iraq and the (Arab) rulers are giving orders to quell (pro-Iraqi) demonstrations in their countries," he said, adding that the rulers would be thrown "in the dustbins of history."

Iraqis hunkered down in self-defense

By SUSANNE M. SCHAFER

WASHINGTON (AP) - Iraq's air force hasn't challenged US and British warplanes, and air defense units haven't fired off missiles in their nation's defense. Taking the latest Western onslaught in the chin may well be their best defense, Pentagon officials and military analysts say.

Other than volleys of orange tracer bullets piercing the skies over Baghdad with anti-aircraft fire, there's been little resistance seen from Iraqi President Saddam Hussein's military force.

"I think if there is any surprise it's the complete lack of response" on the part of the Iraqis, Pentagon operations chief Vice Adm. Scott Fry told reporters on the third day of the attacks.

"I think they're essentially trying to protect themselves right now, and believe that's a better tactic than trying to go and fight against the attack," added Fry's colleague, Rear Adm. Thomas Wilson, the Joint Staff's director of intelligence.

This contrasts to the Iraqi approach during the 1991 Gulf war, when Saddam ordered his



Saddam Hussein (AP)

troops into the "mother of all battles" against the allies. Besides engaging US and allied aircraft in that war, Saddam used his ground forces and fired Scud missiles.

In this latest conflict, Saddam has declared, "By God's will, you will be victorious," and pledged that he won't "compromise or kneel" in the face of airstrikes.

But Iraq's response yesterday was not a military one. Rather, it announced that it was cutting off all dealings with the UN Special

Commission that is in charge of supervising Iraq's disarmament.

Wilson described Saddam Hussein's army as still being "robust," especially the Republican Guards and its armored and mechanized divisions. In all, the Iraqis have about 382,500 active duty men in uniform, according to the International Institute for Strategic Studies in London.

Those ground forces have been fairly quiet amid the bombardments, spreading out to avoid being targeted, the Pentagon officials said.

"For the most part they have been dispersed... a dispersed force in a defensive position during the strikes themselves," Wilson said.

Bernard Trainor, co-author of the book *The General's War* on the Gulf conflict, points out that even though the Iraqis still have 350 planes, they have had very little pilot training and their aircraft are nearly obsolete.

"It would be a death knell to send the planes up," said Trainor, a retired Marine Corps general. "They are fighting back with what they are capable of," which is the anti-aircraft fire, he said.

David Kay, chief of the first

United Nations inspection team following the Gulf war, agreed. "They just don't have the skills. So that is suicide" to try to oppose the British and American warplanes, he said.

Saddam Hussein may well have made the calculation that "Operation Desert Fox" would be a limited attack because of the onset of Ramadan, the Moslem holy month, which began yesterday.

The weak resistance style also "makes it look like the big old USA is picking on someone who is defenseless," Kay added, playing into Saddam's role as a victim in the Arab world.

As well, the Iraqi ruler may have well decided that his best choice is to hunker down and withstand the assault since "he's going to lose anyway," Kay said.

Trainor also pointed out that the leaflets being dropped by the US aircraft on regular Army units in the south of Iraq have asked them to stay put and not resist. This may well be an attempt to "drive a wedge" between them and the elite Republican Guard units that Saddam favors and are under extensive attack, he said.

US Patriot crews get IDF support

By ARNOLD O'SULLIVAN

American troops, deployed with the three US Scud-busting Patriot batteries around Tel Aviv and Haifa, are receiving logistical support from the IDF, including kosher food from army kitchens.

"The Israelis are providing support for the base camp," said Maj. Darryl Bowman, public relations officer for the US joint task force deployed in Israel.

"They have opened up their facilities and it has been quite a sharing experience. We are eating meals together in their mess halls. It's a little bit different from what we are used to, but everyone seems to have adjusted well," he said.

The three Patriot batteries had been participating in maneuvers named "Nobel Shirley" with US Marines in the South, when they were ordered to "assume defense stations," Bowman said.

The batteries were deployed on Thursday and have been on Scud watch since, Bowman said.

the joint task force was made up of airmen, marines, and sailors, who have joined up with a US Army force.

"We have quite a team and it is amazing how fast they have jelled," he said. Asked about the ability of the Patriots to defend against incoming Iraqi Scuds, after their disappointing experience in the 1991 Gulf War, Bowman said he is confident the American system would perform well if called upon.

"I don't want anyone to doubt that our systems are capable of doing what they are meant to do. They are here to perform a mission and they are quite capable of doing so," Bowman said.

"All soldiers want peace. But as with any military operation, our first priority is to make sure we are deployed well to perform our mission anytime and anywhere. Once we are ready, then possibly there will be some opening up of restrictions," he said, when asked if the public would be allowed to visit the US troops.

On Friday, top IAF commanders accompa-

nied by senior US officers visited both the Israeli and Patriot batteries in order to coordinate between the two militaries.

Brig.-Gen. Arie Fishbein, commander of the anti-aircraft forces in the IAF, also expressed confidence in the Patriot PAC-2 systems in service.

"The Patriot system was originally developed against aircraft. During the Gulf war there was a first attempt to use them against surface-to-surface missiles, and improvements have been made from the lessons learned."

"If we have to fire then the results will be better," Fishbein told reporters.

Fishbein also said that the "Green Pine" radar developed for the, as of yet, undeployed Arrow 2 missile system is already in operation scanning the skies for any threat.

"The Green Pine's contribution is that Israel is able to receive information of a missile launch from the Gulf without the need of satellites or the aid of the United States or anyone else," Fishbein said.

Over 100 Palestinians injured in clashes with IDF troops

PA bars media from filming US flag burnings

By BEN LYNNFIELD

As images of destruction in Baghdad reached the households of the Palestinian territories, protests against the bombing of Iraq escalated sharply over the weekend, with 104 Palestinians reportedly wounded in clashes with IDF troops yesterday in Hebron.

Clashes also took place on the outskirts of Ramallah, at al-Ram, in the Jenin area and in the Shuafat refugee camp in Jerusalem.

The Palestinian Authority, meanwhile tried to make sure flag burnings would not be captured on film or reported.

It ordered the closure of local television stations in Ramallah and Hebron that had been broadcasting footage of protests.

In Gaza, the PA shut down the offices of the Associated Press and detained seven cameramen at a pro-Iraq rally on Friday, reportedly beating one of them, freelance cameraman Mohammed Jahjouth. The seven were released after signing a pledge to check with the authority before covering demonstrations.

The closing down of the offices and detention of the cameramen were condemned by Palestinian legislators and activists of Yasser Arafat's Fatah movement.

The cabinet, meeting on Friday night, dispatched a minister, Azzam Ahmad, to Baghdad to pursue a solution that would stop the bombings and persuade Iraq to cooperate with UN resolutions.

In Hebron yesterday, several thousand people, many of them

Hamas supporters, set out from Hebron University and the Hebron Polytechnic Institute. Palestinian sources said. Some of them burned flags; others stomped on pictures of US President Bill Clinton.

The crowd chanted slogans including: "Clinton, go look for women" and "Saddam, oh dear, strike Tel Aviv."

Several hundred protesters broke off from the march and hurled stones and petrol bombs at IDF troops, the sources added. About 100 soldiers fired back with rubber-coated bullets, Palestinian sources said.

AP reported that at one point, with stones coming down on the troops, about 20 soldiers grouped and charged stone-throwers, firing rubber bullets.

Jamal Shobaki, a Palestinian legislator from Hebron, predicted the situation will get even worse without a halt to the bombings.

"If the American bombings continue, the anger of people will increase and it will become a situation that is difficult to control. We now have the beginning of Ramadan and pictures of people injured in Iraq. The feeling is there is no reason to punish the Iraqi people."

Staffers at Al Ahli Hospital reported last night that seven people wounded by rubber bullets were hospitalized in stable condition. Another 40 were treated at Amira Alia Hospital, with 30 of them released during the day, staffers said. The rest of the wounded were treated at the scene.

The IDF Spokesman said troops responded with "means used to disperse demonstrations" after being attacked with stones and petrol bombs.

Abdel-Khalik Natshe, a Hamas leader in Hebron, stressed that the protests are "against the United States and against Israel."

"We consider the Iraqi people, like the Palestinian people, to be victims of American terrorism," he said.

Mohammed Dahlan, the PA's Preventive Security chief in Gaza, said during an interview that the protesters identify with the people of Iraq, not the Iraqi regime.

"In their minds, they compare the suffering of the Iraqi people caused by the economic sanctions with their own situation caused by Israeli soldiers," he said.

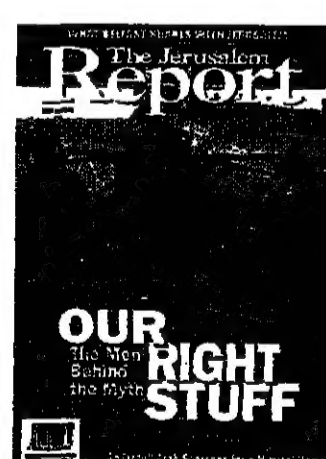
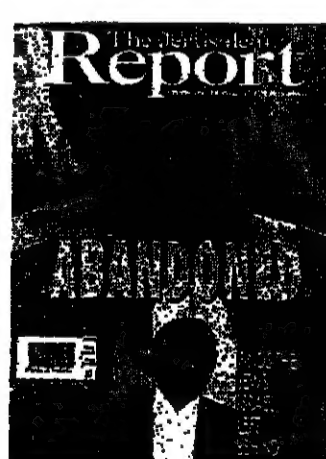
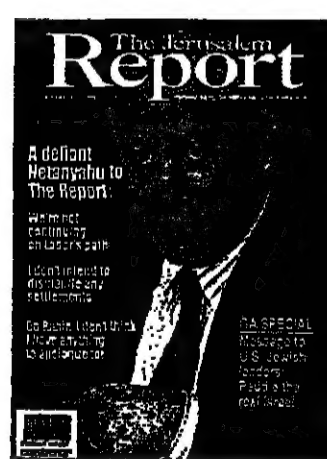
Dahlan seemed aware that a very explosive situation is developing as a result of the bombings, the lack of visible US pressure on Israel, and anger over the continued holding of Palestinian prisoners in Israeli jails. "We cannot be disconnected from the sentiments of the Palestinian people."

But he said he will continue confiscating illegal weapons and pursuing fugitives as outlined in the Wye Memorandum.

In the incident in the Shuafat refugee camp, border policemen opened fire on stone-throwing youths, wounding one of them with a rubber-coated bullet, according to Police Spokesman Shmuel Ben-Ruby.

AP, Margot Dudkevitch and Lania Lahoud contributed to this report.

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Egoz unit kills 2 Hizbullah gunmen

By DAVID RUDGE

Soldiers from the Golani Brigade's Egoz anti-guerrilla unit killed at least two Hizbullah gunmen and wounded several others in a close-range clash near the edge of the security zone late Friday night.

There were no IDF casualties in the encounter, in which the Hizbullah squad – apparently en route to carry out a bomb-planting mission in the zone – was taken by surprise.

OC Northern Command Maj.-Gen. Gabi

Ashkenazi monitored the operation and debriefed the soldiers on their return. He praised their resourcefulness and professionalism in thwarting potential Hizbullah bomb attacks on the IDF and South Lebanese Army.

The incident occurred in near Talousa village in the central sector, where members of the elite Egoz unit had been lying in ambush. Their patience and perseverance was rewarded late on Friday night when they spotted an Hizbullah squad trying to infiltrate the zone. The soldiers opened fire

from close range, killing at least two of the gunmen and wounding several others.

During the incident, the soldiers came under heavy fire from Hizbullah mortar crews north of the zone. The use of mortar fire to cover the activities of its bomb-planting and ambush squads in the field has become a hallmark of Hizbullah's activities over the past few years.

IDF gunners returned fire and IAF helicopter gunships, which had been on standby, were quickly called into action. The IDF Spokesman said the helicopters identified

the origin of the mortar fire and succeeded in knocking out at least one position.

The helicopters came under anti-aircraft fire, including from a vehicle in the area, which was destroyed by counter-fire. The helicopters all returned safely to their bases.

Meanwhile, the Grapes of Wrath monitoring group is due to convene at UNIFIL headquarters in Nakoura today to discuss complaints from Israel and Lebanon over breaches of the understandings in recent fighting.



Rescuing the injured

Paramedics evacuate one of the three persons injured last night when a rear wheel on a taxi (seen on its side) blew out and the driver lost control, hitting the central barrier on the Tel Aviv-Jerusalem highway. The van overturned as a result of the impact. The injured were taken to Assaf Harofeh Hospital in Tzrifin.

(Yitzhak Elhanan/Scout 50)

Tichon decries Poland's cancelation of arms deal

By LIAT COLLINS

Knesset Speaker Dan Tichon, in Warsaw on an official visit, expressed Israel's deep disappointment at Poland's recent unilateral cancelation of a multi-million dollar deal to upgrade Polish helicopters and supply them with missiles. The Polish government signed the deal last year.

At a dinner in his honor at the Polish parliament last week, Tichon said, "Not only would the deal have taken the Polish air force several bounds forward, but it would have helped strengthen the industrial relations between the two countries."

Tichon also called on the Polish government to return to the legal owners or their heirs Jewish assets and property taken during the Holocaust and afterwards. He also called on the Polish education system to include the Holocaust in its history syllabus.

"In order for the lessons to be learned, you must teach the younger generation the story of the history of Polish Jews and their terrible end," he said.

WORLD

in brief

International demand for Kosovo unity

PRISTINA, Yugoslavia (AP) – International officials demanded unity yesterday from the leaders of Kosovo's independence-minded ethnic Albanians, saying this is a necessary condition for any fruitful talks with the Serbian government.

French and Austrian diplomats led a group of international officials to the provincial capital yesterday for talks with ethnic Albanian leaders, in an attempt to bring together the rebel Kosovo Liberation Army and more moderate followers of Ibrahim Rugova.

"We want to give a strong signal to the Kosovo Albanian side [that] it's time now to start real negotiating at a broad base... that represents all the Kosovo Albanian political forces," said Wolfgang Petritsch, Austria's Ambassador to Belgrade.

Japan: N. Korea building missile launch sites

TOKYO (AP) – Japan's Defense Agency believes North Korea has begun construction of two new missile-launch facilities, which would increase the number of launch sites in the reclusive communist state to three, local media said yesterday.

The agency also concluded in a report issued Friday that North Korea maintains three suspected nuclear weapons development facilities, Kyodo News agency said. The report was submitted to Japan's ruling Liberal Democratic Party, it said.

Defense Agency officials were unavailable late Saturday for comment.

North Korea's hardline communist leadership has rebuffed a US demand that it allow unconditional inspection of the underground facility at Keamjang-ri, 40 kilometers northeast of the country's main nuclear complex of Yongbyon.

150 arrested, 14 hurt in clashes at Nazi exhibit

HANOVER, Germany (AP) – Police arrested 150 demonstrators and 14 people, including three policemen, were injured yesterday when leftists clashed with rightist protesters at an exhibition on the activities of Hitler's military.

Police said about 150 young rightists showed up to demonstrate against the exhibit, titled "War of extermination: Crimes of the Wehrmacht from 1941 to 1944." About 2,500 anti-rightists, including from labor unions and the Greens party, held a counter demonstration and the opposing sides scuffled with each other on several occasions, police said.

China launches two US-made satellites

BEIJING (AP) – A Chinese Long March 2C rocket launched two US made satellites into orbit yesterday. China's state-run Xinhua News Agency reported.

The rocket lifted off at 7:30 p.m. from the Taiyuan launch center in north China's Shanxi province. The satellites are part of a mobile telecommunications system developed by Motorola Corp. Saturday's was the 13th successful launch since two failures, in February and August 1996, resulted in the cancellation and suspension of contracts.

Six launches have put 10 satellites into orbit this year and no more are planned before year's end, the report said.

Belgium brands Satmar as 'potentially dangerous sect'

By HAIM SHAPIRO

The Satmar Hassidim may not be to everyone's liking, but it is doubtful whether even their ideological enemies in Israel would want to officially brand them as a "potentially dangerous sect," as did the Belgian Parliament.

Belgium, which named 189 religious groups in 1996, is just one of the European countries which has an official list of potentially dangerous sects. Austria, Luxembourg, and France also have such lists, according to Dr. John Graz, secretary-general of the International Religious Liberty Association.

Graz, who is here to help set up a local chapter of the organization, noted that in most European countries, the "dangerous" list is headed by the Jehovah's Witnesses. In France, he said, as a result of their inclusion on the list, the tax authorities withdrew the Witnesses' status as a religious organization and charged them \$50 million in back taxes – 60 percent of their contributions for the past four years. Also included on the French list was the Evangelical Church of Besançon, a member of the French federation of Protestant churches.

"When we ask [the French authorities] why they listed a group, they won't say," Graz said. Graz also noted that France recently has passed a law enforcing school attendance, with the interpretation of a "reasonable absence" left to the discretion of

the local authorities. Such legislation could be harmful both to observant Jews and members of Christian sabbatarian groups, he noted.

The IRLA was founded in 1893 by the Seventh Day Adventists, but now includes a wide range of representation in the Western World. Graz said he sees Israel as "somewhere in the middle" regarding religious freedom among the countries which have laws protecting religious freedom, but which do not always fully protect religious minorities from extremists.

Although aware of proposed laws against missionary activity, he was not aware that some Reform and Conservative Jewish leaders have charged that Israel has curtailed their religious liberty.

The worst instances of infringement of religious liberty are to be found in Saudi Arabia and the Sudan, with harsh instances of religious persecution to be found in Pakistan, Iran, Indonesia, China, and India.

Ya'acov Stauber, a Satmar source in Jerusalem, said that the Jerusalem hassidim are unaware of the action by the Belgian government, but he believes it was undoubtedly the result of the Satmar belief that the Torah forbade the establishment of the State of Israel.

"Whatever they do against us, we have, praise God, thousands of families and we act only according to the Torah," Stauber said.

PM accepts Neeman's resignation

By DAVID ZEY HARRIS

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu formally accepted Finance Minister Yaakov Neeman's resignation on Friday, despite a last-ditch effort to persuade him to remain in office.

Minutes later, Neeman told reporters there was no way he was prepared to preside over the economy while coalition MKs were bent on their path of self-destruction.

"It is impossible to be a responsible finance minister when the budget or other significant bills come to the Knesset and coalition MKs vote against the government line," he said. "As soon as I saw coalition MKs displaying political intentions when voting on economic issues, I saw no room for me to continue [in office]. I'm not prepared to be responsible for the bedlam that will follow."

The minister dismissed suggestions that he was fleeing the job, pointing out that he was resigning on a matter of principle, adding that during his reign he had attempted to act in good faith, debating professional issues rather than badmouthing individuals.

As of Friday, Netanyahu took over the Treasury portfolio and according to Finance Ministry



Former finance minister Yaakov Neeman meets the press on Friday in Jerusalem.

(Isaac Harari)

sources seems likely to keep the post until an early election.

Neeman said he was convinced the prime minister would be able

to cope with two jobs, especially given the support he will receive from senior Treasury staff. The outgoing minister also rejected the

suggestion that Netanyahu or any other appointee would open the state's purse strings and opt for a policy of election economics.

"I don't believe that anyone will sit here and not work for the good of the State of Israel," said Neeman, who added he is prepared to help any government that should request his future assistance. However, he strongly denied that he is about to enter the political fray.

"Certainly not, following my 18 months in the job."

Neeman urged his successor to adopt policies that will prevent the economy from further deterioration and pleaded for the immediate implementation of his own tax reform proposals, which center on reducing the top tax bracket from 60 percent (including National Insurance contributions) to some 35%.

Had he and his predecessor Dan Meridor not implemented a tight fiscal policy, unemployment today would be far higher than its present level, said Neeman, who will return to his Tel Aviv legal practice.

Neeman once again called for national unity. He said Netanyahu has done the right thing in moving towards early elections and that he hopes the outcome will provide broad national consensus.

In accepting Neeman's resignation, Netanyahu said it had been a pleasure to work together so closely in friendship and trust.

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Sad day for America

It has always been understood that the grave act of impeaching a president of the United States would, by its very nature, require impartial consensus across party lines. The current House of Representatives debate has been a disgraceful partisan spectacle, an act of vengeance rather than justice, a triumph for the fundamentalist Christian Right that will haunt Republicans for a long time. Yesterday was a sad day for America.

If the issue behind the impeachment bandwagon has been the credibility of President Bill Clinton, as played out in the House this week the issue has become the credibility of the whole US system. At the end of the 20th century, 19th century attitudes to consensual sexual sins have been reborn as high crimes and misdemeanors in the world's most powerful, and supposedly most free, democracy. This is a feat even 19th century lawmakers never achieved.

The vindictiveness of the Republican leaders - who have pursued their vendetta against Clinton in the face of majority public opposition - could not even relax to show a measure of respect for the American forces in action over Iraq. No one seriously believes the theory that Clinton arranged the crisis with Iraq in order to save himself from impeachment - if only for the simple reason that such a diversion would not, and did not, work anyway. Instead of accepting the fact that the action was necessary and timely and had the full support of the defense establishment - and the British government - the Republicans handed foreign enemies of the United States in the Middle East a stick with which to beat their own president while the troops are in action.

Had Clinton not responded to Saddam Hussein's calculated provocation, his Republican enemies would have been the first to

accuse him again as a "draft dodger" lacking the courage to stand up to Saddam. Instead, Clinton did the right thing, as he had warned Saddam in November, but still got criticized and impeached anyway.

The impeachment debate in the House made it clear that, with few exceptions, even moderate Republicans are now running scared of the conservative Christian Right. The sudden and completely unnecessary exit of Bob Livingston as House Speaker-elect over an extramarital affair exposed not only the hypocrisy in which so many of Clinton's "family values" enemies have long been living, but the fact that the conservative Right thinks it now has a stranglehold on the main party. The danger of what has been called "sexual McCarthyism" is now staring in the face any candidate who is foolish enough to aspire to public office. Joe McCarthy's "are you or have you ever been a communist?" is being replaced by "have you ever had sex outside marriage?"

Moderate Republicans have cravenly caved in to those conservatives who in their blind hatred have always wanted Clinton out, no matter what the cost to the nation or the wishes of the majority of Americans. The Republicans could not even display the common courtesy of burying domestic hostilities while the troops are in action - as the British political parties have done. As one political scientist commented, the Republican Party now appears to be a wholly owned subsidiary of the Christian right, and doesn't care that it may pay dearly for it.

As for Clinton, he must resist any calls to resign. He is twice elected by the people, and continues to have majority support for the way he does his job. History may criticize his defective personal judgment, but it is likely to be more harsh on the partisan abuse of the impeachment process by the current House.

Ungrateful allies

The bombing of military targets in Iraq is the most precise operation of its kind ever seen, outdoing even NATO's impressive destruction of the Bosnian Serb military that made the Dayton peace treaty possible.

But minimizing civilian casualties and damage to civilian property has brought Washington little credit or thanks from the long line of poseurs and critics in the Middle East and elsewhere, who have come to the aid of Saddam Hussein's propaganda machine.

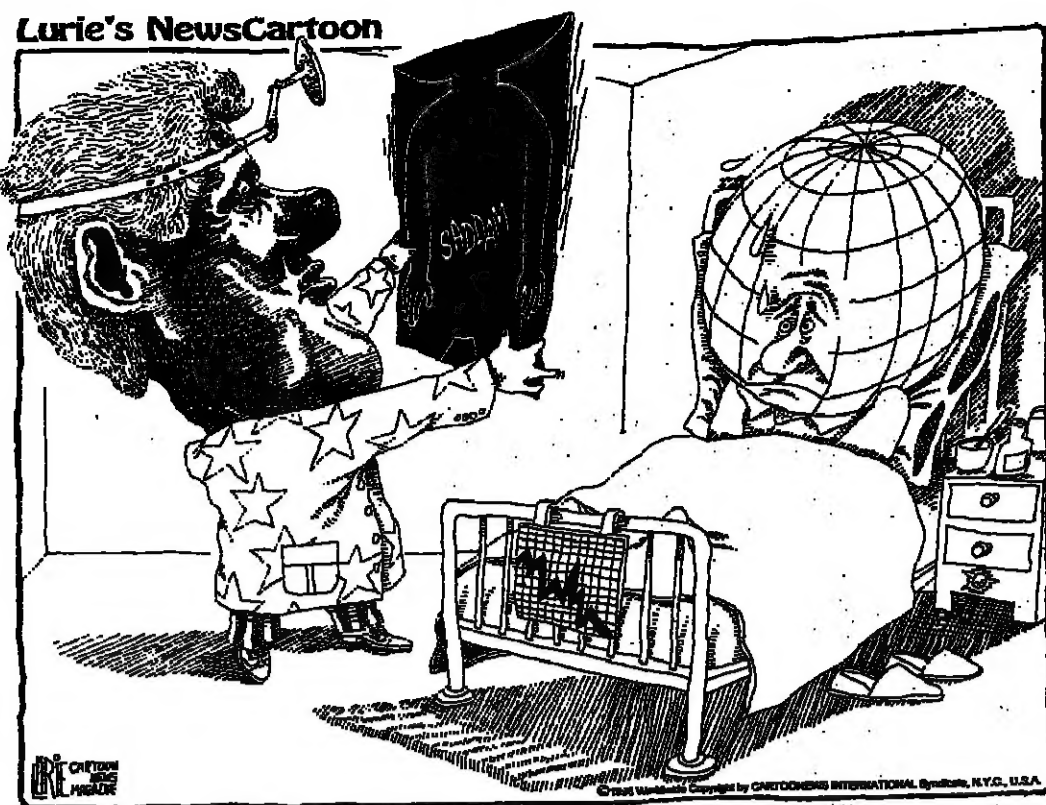
In the 10 months of this year that Saddam has been creating crises with the UN inspectors, and then making false and lying commitments to save his skin, not one of those states now so highly critical of the bombing campaign has come forward with a workable alternative to making Iraq adhere to the requirements of the mandatory UN Security Council resolutions.

Russian politicians, now huffing and puffing and condemning the United States as "international terrorists," were singularly ineffectual in persuading Saddam to cooperate fully with the United Nations, despite long and supposedly influential relations with Baghdad. As for the

Arab leaders who publicly condemn the operation, they are beneath contempt for their failure to publicly condemn Saddam Hussein instead. It is an open secret that the Iraqi dictator is widely despised and feared across the region yet, except for Kuwaitis who experienced the grim joys of Saddam's brutal regime, most Arab states persist in regarding the Americans as their enemy.

Since it is unlikely that the air strikes alone will topple Saddam's regime, the reaction of regional leaders can only be described as cowardice, because they will continue to fear even a weakened Saddam. The Arab leaders - and Iran - have quickly and conveniently forgotten how terrified they were of this same Saddam nearly eight years ago, when he looked set to rampage down the Gulf with a massive and murderous war machine. If for regional diplomatic reasons they wanted to remain quiet during Desert Fox, that would be understandable. The fact that so many of them have chosen to condemn the strikes in the harshest terms can only be described as the height of ingratitude and impotence.

Lurie's NewsCartoon



"It's malignant. We'd better take it out."

The politics of defamation

DAVID WEINBERG

And they're off! We're in for one of the most divisive, negative election campaigns in our history. Of course, the politicians concern themselves very little with the fraying fabric of our society, and the deleterious impact of their demagoguery. The key is to win, no matter what. Here's what to watch for:

• Binyamin Netanyahu: "Just who is going to better protect Israel's interests in final-status talks?" is Bibi's expected - reasonable although arguable - campaign slogan.

The prime minister would be well advised, however, to stay away from seditious smearing, such as his "the Left has forgotten its Jewishness" remark, whispered last year into the ear of Rabbi Kadourie. No need to stoop this low. It's dangerous, too: we have a frightening familiarity with inflated passions of a religious-political overtone, and where such sentiments might lead.

I hope that Netanyahu remembers that it is not enough to speak of hanging tough and resisting pressure. I, for one, want to know how he is going to both stand firm and protect, even enhance, our most important diplomatic and security asset - Israel's strategic alliance with the US.

The dangerous slippage in US-Israel coordination, exacerbated by the incautious handling of Clinton's visit last week, is Netanyahu's greatest mistake, and I don't think we can tolerate any more such mishandling of this all-important relationship.

• Ehud Barak: "Bibi is a liar" may resonate well, and sound good to the campaign consultants, but it is a slogan that drags our political discourse further down into the gutter. Mr. Barak, do you really have to portray the prime minister as a profligate liar in order to get across your party's message of hope and peace? Again, the politics of defamation have been tried before in this country with disastrous and tragic results. Beware.

Think carefully before running a Meretz-style anti-haredi cam-

looks and high poll numbers, Lipkin-Shahak is an untested, unproven element in politics. Just consider how quickly Lt.-Gen. (res.) Ehud Barak's luster faded away! As a vote-getter, I'd place my money on the less-well-known but ever-solid Lubotzky. There is a huge middle ground out there waiting to be captured, voters searching for moderate, consensual leadership - and the respected Lubotzky, like Meridor, fits the mold. The pair has the potential to reach across religious-secular lines and be the big surprise of the spring vote.

• Russians: Avigdor Lieberman is likely to mount an alternative to Yisrael Ba'aliya, taking Yosi Stern and Michael Nudelman with him, along with the right-wing Larissa Gerstein. Gerstein's husband is editor of *Vzvezda*, the main, influential Russian-language daily, and you can guess whose side the paper will be on. So, Natan Sharansky will have to define much more clearly what he stands for.

• The Far-Right: Yitzhak Levy's NRP will soon fall off the end of the world if it lurches any farther right, and I don't see it becoming the anchor for a new, hard-right umbrella movement. Many Religious Zionists, considerably less extreme than the party rabbis and leaders, are going to look for new political homes, unless Levy can articulate a platform that goes beyond defending settlements in the territories.

In the meantime, Shas will continue to clean up. Fifteen seats, I'd say.

Its religious amulets, laudable package of heritage and family values, along with an overflow of self-righteousness and a far-reaching social services network cannot be wished away. And beyond all this predictable polemic prattle - is there a promise, dare I ask for vision? Ach... Israelis looking for leadership that occasionally will make their hearts soar or intellect go into overdrive are bound to be disappointed. Expect a viciously, bitterly divisive, mud-slinging election campaign.

Shahak and Meridor: Rumors are that Milo will link-up with Amnon Lipkin-Shahak, still wearing his post-IDF-service halo; with Alex Lubotzky of the Third Way; and with Dan Meridor, who is expected to leave the Likud. Now this is interesting.

I'm a big fan of Meridor's - he's smart, temperate by nature, experienced both in economic matters and high diplomacy, principled yet a realist. If I were Meridor, I'd be wary of Milo. And for all his "chief of staff" gallantry, good

would never implement what it propagandizes against them. Secondly, there's no vision here for the country. No alternative ideas. Is this what centrist Labor Zionism has come to - anti-clericalism and anti-haredism?

• Ronni Milo: It is not clear yet what framework the political charlatan named Milo will attach himself to, but you can be sure that his platform, too, will reek of raw anti-religious exaggeration. One more opportunist attempting to ride the wave, urging secular Israel to man the barricades. I wonder: just how many "go-get-the-haredim" parties can succeed in one election campaign? The overall will work against the Left, I think, and scare away, not attract, secular right-wingers.

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authority on security for the moderate right wing. The extreme Right, which does not want to concede any territory for peace, has renounced Sharon's leadership, but the moderate Right will continue to trust him, thus falling into line with the views of the moderate Left and forming, together, a broad peace-with-security camp.

Only a broad coalition for peace, representing a national consensus, can marginalize the extreme Right and overcome their expected obstruction. When they no longer have the sympathy of the moderate Right, their options for influencing the direction of events will dwindle. A broad consensus is essential for moving the peace process forward.

"Style" and "negotiation tactics" which Labor claims it can improve, are secondary. Although Labor was able to get the peace process started in 1993, they could not move it forward for lack of consensus. Netanyahu and Sharon were brave enough to restart it at the Wye Plantation talks, expecting Labor support. But Barak, smelling blood, in the wake of right-wing defections from Netanyahu, cannot resist the temptation of power and is calling for elections rather than a unity government. Even if he achieves it, however, it will be at the price of peace. If Netanyahu and Sharon find themselves needing extreme right-wing support in the elections, this rare moment of potential consensus will be lost.

Perhaps most important was his co-opting Ariel Sharon to support territorial concessions. Sharon had been its most stalwart opponent and commander of the extreme right-wing settler movement. He has also been the most trusted

The writer specializes in Palestinian nationalism at the Truman Institute for Peace of the Hebrew University, and is visiting professor at Trinity College, in Hartford, Connecticut.

Crowded center

DANIEL BLOCH

The Israeli electorate is divided into three main blocks in choosing a prime minister. The first one, comprising around 40%, includes the ideological Right, the Orthodox community, the majority of the North African community, and the majority of the new immigrants from Russia, which will vote only for a Likud candidate.

The second one, also comprising around 40%, includes the ideological Left and most of the Arab community, which will vote only for candidate from the left-wing parties. The rest of the electorate, the amorphous center, or the floating vote, is what the election campaign will be all about.

Therefore, every candidate will try to attract as many voters as possible from the center, while doing the utmost to hold together his block and bring his hard-core supporters to the polling stations on election day.

In the 1996 elections, Binyamin Netanyahu succeeded in bringing out his ideological and Orthodox supporters, and, at the same time, by promising to continue the peace process, he captured a small majority of the floating vote.

Until recently, he succeeded in maintaining his supporters, in spite of the inherent contradiction between those from the nationalistic, religious Right who wanted him to stop the peace process and those from the moderate center who wanted the continued implementation of the Oslo Accords. Along the road he made many mistakes, mainly on the economic and social issues, but somehow he succeeded in holding together his fragile majority, using his political demagoguery and public relations skills, and exploiting the inability of his rivals to form a viable and convincing alternative.

But even he could not fool all the people all the time. After he signed the Wye Memorandum we thought that he chose the moderate way. We were wrong, for he had really deserted the peace process in favor of extremism.

That was a fatal mistake. He forgot that the right wing has no alternative: They cannot support any other candidate from the center or the left, while the moderates have alternatives in the crowded field of possible candidates from Dan Meridor, Ronni Milo, and Amnon Lipkin-Shahak to Ehud Barak.

At the beginning of his term, Netanyahu tried very hard to prove that he is a man of the pragmatic center. The most important portfolios were given to moderate ministers such as Meridor, David Levy, and Yitzhak Mordechai. Ariel Sharon was almost left out. But Levy and Meridor were forced to resign. Mordechai has very little clout and Sharon remained the main power broker.

The combination of the hard-line policies toward the peace process with the failures of the economic and social policies, resulting in economic stagnation, rising unemployment and inflation was a deadly one for the political survival of this government. Former finance minister Yaakov Neeman fled from the sinking ship, although he is to be blamed for many of the mistaken economic policies. But the main responsibility falls to Netanyahu himself for making the wrong choices. He opted for political survival in the short run and failed to broaden the base of his coalition by ignoring the moderate center.

The question now is who will be able to capture the vote of this block. It is almost certain that there will be more than one candidate vying for those moderate voters. It is partly a result of the failure of Barak to become the obvious and only alternative to Netanyahu.

The electorate is searching for a savior. A charismatic leader who will project warmth and integrity, courage and stamina, and will have an answer for all our problems, both internal and external. For those disenchanted with Netanyahu and not sure if Barak is the answer, there is suddenly a magical alternative named Shahak, because nobody yet knows what he stands for. He has a pleasant, warm, and charismatic appearance on TV and until now he did not deal with any controversial issues.

In the past we were disillusioned by instant charismatic leaders that were not tested in the political mine field, such as the late Yigal Yadin.

Therefore, before filing his candidacy, we need to know where Shahak stands on the issues, who are his supporters and who is on his team. Can he take away enough potential voters from Netanyahu or just weaken the chances of beating him. Perhaps the chances are better if he joins forces as Barak's No. 2?

Until we get the proper answers directly from Shahak, it will be impossible to make the proper choice and political judgment.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

PHONY REPORTS

Sir, - I rushed back to Israel from Canada to serve in the IDF as an aircraft mechanic in the Six Day War. At that time, if a pilot reported direct hits on an Egyptian convoy, a group of tanks or an enemy headquarters, you believed him.

I am appalled to read daily and hear on the nightly news of air raids in South Lebanon, where pilots report direct hits with all planes returning safely to base. Who's lying to who, and who can believe this nonsense anymore?

Since 1985, there have been over a thousand IAF air raids on South Lebanon, with over 110 air raids occurring in 1998 and all pilots reporting direct hits.

Since the Hizbullah number only a few hundred fighters, how can any be left alive, or any building, house or camp that house them still be standing? Something does not add up here. Figures don't lie, but liars figure!

Today the Hizbullah are stronger, better trained and better equipped than 13 years ago. They pay no attention to the air raids, which do no damage to their overland weapons supply lines from Beirut.

What is the IAF really hitting? Trails the Hizbullah used 10 days ago, large rocks they make small stones of, or bombing abandoned houses. If IDF intelligence is providing the targeting information to the IAF, it appears they have a bigger credibility problem than the Mossad.

Sadly the armed forces are no longer a career but a stepping stone to Israeli politics. We have no fighting generals in the IDF today, only would-be politicians.

MOTTI SOMERSTEIN

Tel Aviv.

MINORITY CONTROL

Sir, - In her article "Let the people decide," (November 24), Evelyn Gordon demands we set up here something like the American system of government.

She ignores the tremendous differences between Israel and America. We are still in the early process of creating a nation out of long separated ethnic communities. Most of us are immigrants with little or no experience in the functions of democratic government. And we make mistakes and try to correct them.

Our worst mistake was the Direct Elections Law. It is destroying the main unifying element of our state - the large, ideological parties concerned with general issues and common welfare. The law favors special interest parties that demand and get privileges for their voters, at the expense of common good.

Can you have a democracy when the Knesset is controlled by minorities?

MORDECHAI KAFRI

Kibbutz Gal-On.

FROM OUR ARCHIVES

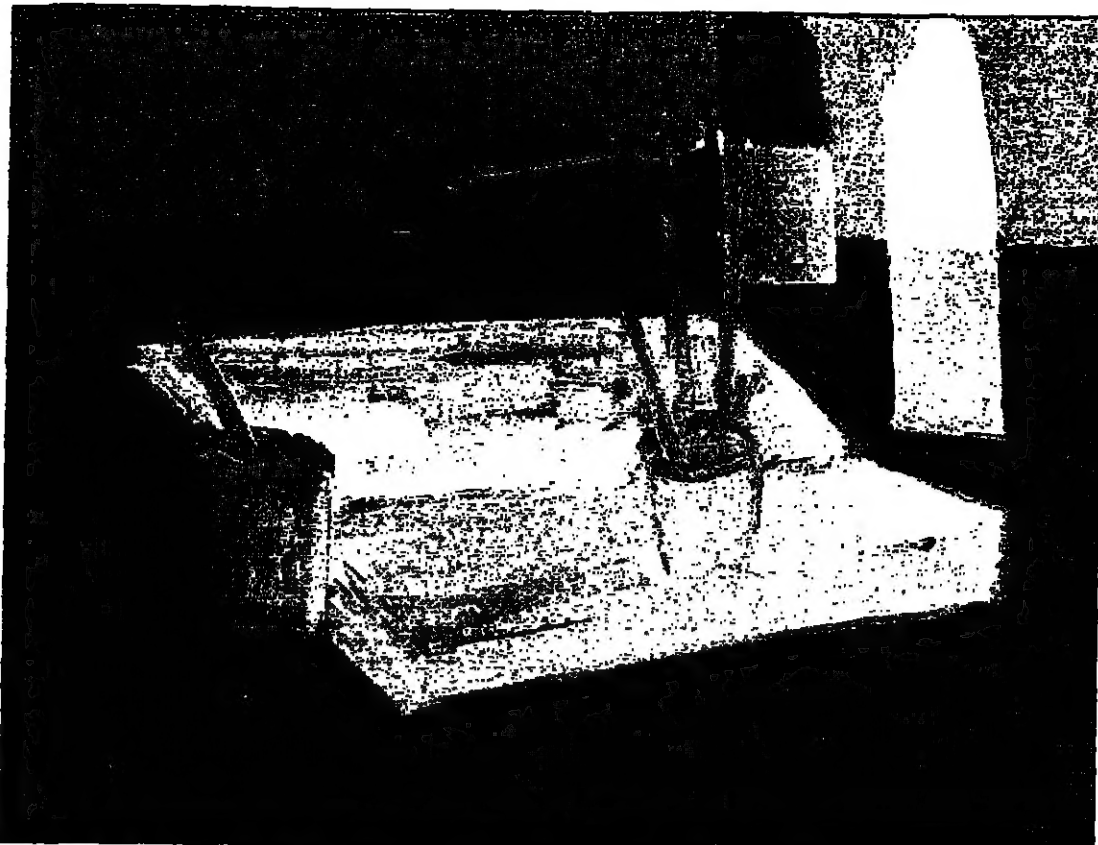
65 years ago: On December 20, 1933, *The Palestine Post* reported from London on the activities of David Ben-Gurion and other leaders of the Zionist movement, who defended Jewish rights for free immigration and settlement in Palestine and asked the British government to curb the massive illegal Arab immigration from neighboring countries.

50 years ago: On December 20, 1948, *The Palestine Post* reported that eight young Jews escaped in a small boat from the British detention camp in Cyprus and arrived here after a three-day journey.

25 years ago: On December 20, 1973, *The Jerusalem Post* reported that the Israeli cabinet had finalized preparations for the Geneva Peace Conference by approving the outline of Foreign Minister Abba Eban's speech to the opening session.

Alexander Zivelli

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Crowded center
DANIEL BLOCH



Nicolas de Stael (1914-1955): *The Box of Watercolors*, oils (sold for £254,500 at Sotheby's London)



Lucian Freud: *Portrait of Frank Auerbach*, oils 1975-6 (sold for £914,500 at Sotheby's London)

Freud's nude on the couch sets a record

AT THE AUCTIONS

British painter Lucian Freud (grandson of Sigmund) became the most expensive living artist sold at a European auction, when an anonymous telephone bidder, one of many, paid £2.8m. for his *Naked Portrait With Reflection* at Sotheby's London December 9. This remorseless oil of a nude on a couch went for more than double its rosiest estimate. A few days earlier, Freud's portrait of his friend and fellow painter Frank Auerbach, a head seen from above, sold at Sotheby's for £914,500; it was one of the highlights of the Robert Hiscott collection. The world auction record for a Freud was set at Sotheby's New York last May, when *Large Interior after Watteau* sold for over £3.5m.

Another record was set at the December 9 sale when a view of the Piazza de Duomo in Milan, painted from a photograph by contemporary German painter Gerhard Richter, more than doubled its lower estimate to go for an amazing £2.2m., a world record for this artist. While Richter has a firm international reputation as both abstract painter and photo-realist (he recently had a one-man show at the Israel Museum), the price had knowledgeable punters shaking their heads in disbelief. The painting was consigned by Siemens Milan and was bought by the Pritzker family, owners of the Hyatt chain of hotels, who intend to hang it in the new Chicago Hyatt Park Hotel. It will hang in the Chicago Art Institute, home of many other Richters, until the hotel is completed in about 18 months' time. Another Richter in this sale,



Gerhard Richter: *Domplatz, Milan*, oils, 1968 (sold for £2.2m. at Sotheby's London)

Renate and Marianne, made from a photo and depicting an equally blurred image of Richter's wife and a friend at the beach, sold for a bit over its rosiest estimate at £727,500.

A gestural oil by Frank Auerbach entitled *Tree on Primrose Hill*, 1985-6, exceeded

its rosiest estimate to go for £166,500.

FOR HUNDREDS of years, until this century, international mail was routinely disinfected, in a somewhat misguided effort to prevent the spread of disease. Many items of mail that under-

went this procedure are to be offered at Wallach's annual auction of stamps, documents and historic curiosities at the Philately Club in Tel Aviv on December 22. Among the more than 2,000 lots are items ranging from Holocaust-period Jewish stars to antisemitic nutcrackers.

Among the documents are many signed by famous rabbis and yeshiva heads. A collection of postal items and curiosities from the Palestine Authority over the last four years should arouse much interest, as they represent the beginnings of a new postal service.

Letters relating to Zionist affairs personally written by Theodor Herzl are also on offer.

The yellow stars are from Germany, France, Belgium and Hungary; one from Bulgaria is more upmarket: made of bakelite, it was worn in the button-hole. A chilling bronze medal worn by the crematoria Sonderkommando has a Star of David on one side and the SS insignia on the other.

The cloth yellow stars, sewn to the outer garment, were very varied in design and have been cataloged. A copy of a Yellow Star catalog (in French) by Jean Forien de Rochesnard, 1983, which deals with Jewish badges from the Middle Ages to the Holocaust, is on offer.

Jewish ration cards from various European countries during the Holocaust period and letters from or to various concentration camps and slave-labor organizations form dozens of lots. There are also receipts from parcels sent by relatives. Lot 498 is comprised of clothing ration coupons marked with a blue Star of David, issued in Berlin as late as December 31, 1942.

Forged documents from Theresienstadt and mail from internment camps in France and Italy are included, as well as mail from a Jewish soldier in a German stalag to his daughter in Haifa.

Nearly every lot in this sale is a fascinating witness to some aspect of history.

For details or a catalog, call (08) 946-1010.

Israel's solar energy use could be brighter

Despite the fact that nearly every rooftop here sprouts solar water heaters, a Ben-Gurion University expert claims that Israeli advances in solar energy technology "approach zero."

Prof. David Feiman, director of BGU's National Center for Solar Energy, claimed at a session of the Knesset Science and Technology Committee that the country's prominence in the field has receded substantially during the past 20 years.

Feiman maintained that the Ormat and (now nonexistent) Luz companies spread Israel's name around the world by building solar-energy stations.

"But now Israel has fallen behind and is at the bottom of the totem pole in this field - at a time when awareness of the need for solar-energy use is growing in Europe. There are thousands of photovoltaic systems there that function almost without direct radiation from the sun."

Next summer, leading experts will come to Jerusalem for a congress of the International Solar Energy Society.

"At this gathering, the naked truth of so-called Israeli supremacy in the field will be revealed," Feiman said. He suggested that to catch up and move ahead of the pack, the government ensure completion of the solar station pilot project launched at Sde Boker but frozen recently by the Ministry for National Infrastructure.

In addition, solar-electric systems should be installed at Beduin schools in the Negev and Israeli-Palestinian scientific cooperation should be encouraged at four solar-energy sites in Israel and the autonomous regions. Assistance is also needed to complete the first solar-energy kibbutz in the Arava.

technology, combines a powerful statistical prediction engine with an efficient mechanism to take advantage of idle bandwidth for "pre-fetching" to users their most likely next hits.

The product offers professionals an easy way to accelerate their site - an entire web site can be upgraded in as little as 15 minutes. The waiting time for users is then sliced dramatically as web pages are smartly loaded in the background.

"A fast site is beneficial for those who manage web sites because they want a maximum number of people to use them. If they tire of waiting for text and graphics to appear, they will quickly lose interest," Ron explains. "Our SiteAccelerator software does the job more easily and less expensively than purchasing a bigger server or paying the service provider more for a faster line, and end-line users at home or at work don't have to download anything extra."

Other companies market various downloadable programs for end-line users for about \$20, but Ron says their speed claims are "exaggerated" and that the initiative should come from webmasters instead of people who want to go into sites.

SiteAccelerator, which retails for \$495, can be downloaded by webmasters from the company's web site at www.netcognition.co.

NetCognition is a start-up venture co-founded by three partners who have a combined experience of over 30 years in the high-tech field: Tal Goldberg and Eyal Halachmi each served for five years as officers with an elite technology unit of the Israel Defense Forces, and they and Ron have significant work experience in the high-tech market.

GERMANY CITES ISRAELIS

Two Weizmann Institute scientists have been awarded the prestigious Cross of the Order of Merit of the Federal Republic of Germany in recognition of their contributions to the establishment and enhancement of scientific and personal ties between the research communities of Israel and Germany.

Prof. Yisrael Pecht, a chemist, and Prof. Uzi Smilansky, a physicist, were the first Israeli guest scientists to spend extended periods in German research laboratories.

Forty years ago, the Weizmann Institute had invited a delegation from Germany's Max Planck Society to visit Israel, thus launching scientific ties between the two countries; this was several years before diplomatic relations were established.

But scientific cooperation developed slowly; Pecht and Smilansky arrived in Göttingen and Heidelberg about 30 years ago, and since then they have become intensely engaged in the promotion of German-Israeli scientific cooperation. According to the German Embassy in Israel, the two participated in the joint research projects, were members of bilateral fellowship committees, hosted young German scientists and established a close network of professional contacts that today cover a broad range of scientific disciplines.

GOOD FOR WEBMASTERS

A Ra'anana company called NetCognition has unveiled its first product, SiteAccelerator, which allows webmasters (managers of web sites) to drastically improve the speed of web sites. The CEO of the six-month-old company, Eitan Ron, says sites operate twice to five times as fast with his company's software.

The product, based on NetCognition's patent-pending

SOUTH PACIFIC GOLD MINE

The world's smallest country, the South Pacific island of Tuvalu, hopes to undergo a Cinderella-like transformation from one of the globe's poorest nations to one of the wealthiest, after hanging a "for sale" sign on its Internet name.

Reuters reports that a privately held Canadian company, The TV Corporation, has begun to market Tuvalu's Internet domain name - .tv being the country code designation in World Wide Web addresses. They are hoping major TV companies, producers and TV personalities and others might want to own a web site address that has the cachet of the ".tv" ending.

Internet powers, specifically the Internet Assigned Numbers Authority, granted Tuvalu the sign-off ".tv". Domain names already broadly in use - ".com" for firms or ".il" for Israel - are rapidly being snapped up to the point where companies and individuals are looking for alternatives to come up with unique or catchy Web-site addresses.

The 9,000-odd inhabitants of the Polynesian microstate hope to eventually rank among the globe's richest people on a per-capita basis because the bulk of the money earned from ".tv" will flow back to them.

Tuvalu Prime Minister Bikenibeu Peneia said: "We are delighted this agreement will improve not only the Tuvalu standard of living but permit us to help other South Pacific nations."

Companies can now surf to www.internet.tv, and register a name with a \$1,000 deposit. If rivals sign up for the same moniker, the firm will auction them off starting February 1, 1999.

Speculators who attempt a superfluous claim to a name such as nbc.tv, hoping to resell it for a higher price, will be blocked in the interest of fairness.

Recycling: The public's willing, but the ministries are weak

Earthly Concerns



By D'vora Ben Shaul

Manufacturers, businesses and individuals worldwide are discovering that they can increase profitability while protecting the environment, slashing the amount of raw materials - wood, plastic, metals and fibers - they use. The key words are recycling, remanufacturing and sharing resources.

Two outstanding examples spring to mind: the Xerox Corporation and Interface Inc., a maker of floor tiles and acoustic tiles. By leasing rather than selling their products, then taking them back at the end of their usability for recycling or remanufacturing, both companies have managed to increase profits and reduce materials without increasing costs to the consumer.

Between 1992 and 1997, Xerox doubled the number of machines it recycled or remanufactured; in doing so, in 1997 alone it saved 30,000 tons of solid waste that would otherwise have been diverted to landfills.

Interface cut waste production by 60% and saw a 20% jump in sales in 1995-96, with no increase in virgin materials used.

In Germany, after the passing of a law that made manufacturers responsible for the waste engendered by their products, manufacturers cut unnecessary waste in their packaging by 17% and increased recycling of waste from their products by 12%. Now Austria, France and Belgium are preparing to pass similar legislation.

It isn't only businesses that are learning to use less in order to save more.

In Europe 8,000 teams - and in the US 3,000 teams - composed of groups of householders are combining resources to reuse and recycle as much as possible.

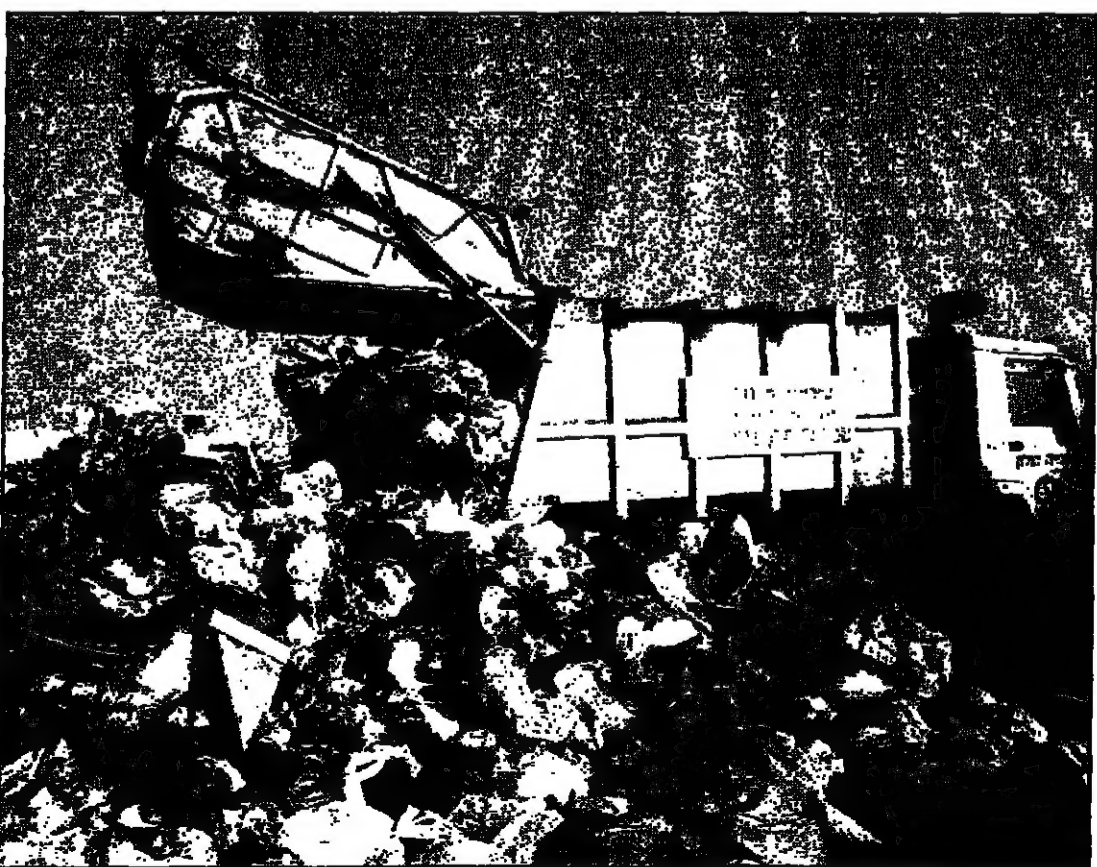
Successful teams have managed to produce 42% less landfill, use 25% less water and produce 16% less carbon with a savings of \$401 each year per household.

ALL this is in sharp contrast to what we see here in Israel.

Water consumption is climbing, despite the shortage of this vital commodity; landfill waste (we throw more than 90% of our solid waste away) keeps increasing, as does the consumption of raw materials.

Packaging is becoming more and more elaborate, creating more and more waste in the form of paper products and plastic, none of which are recycled.

The pity of it is that the Israeli public would gladly participate



In Israel, landfills keep expanding and product packaging becomes more and more elaborate, creating more and more waste. (Jon Bloom)

in any rational moves aimed at preserving resources and protecting the environment. But, unfortunately, these sorts of projects can only get off the ground if there is solid and well-planned

government initiative behind them.

That is just the ingredient Israel lacks, since we are saddled with ministries whose only recycling ability appears limited to out-

worn ideas, and whose remanufacturing is expressed in perennial and solvable problems. And their struggles seem largely aimed at protecting their own positions, not the environment.

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An Orson Welles screenplay surfaces

By MICHAEL FLEEMAN

Buried deep among the hundreds of old scripts in RKO Pictures' archives was a 1941 melodramatic gem about an amnesia-stricken man who wakes up in the middle of a revolution in Mexico.

Never produced, the screenplay for *The Way to Santiago* is credited to Orson Welles. A quick look at the text leaves no doubt it was the work of the *Citizen Kane* filmmaker when he was at the peak of his arrogant brilliance.

The script begins: "My face fills the frame." Abandoned by RKO after Welles' epic fall from grace, *The Way to Santiago* has finally gotten the green light nearly six decades later and is being produced by a rejuvenated RKO.

"This script caught everything about Welles," said RKO Chairman and CEO Ted Hartley, citing the screenplay's action, suspense and jungle romance. "It reflected his greatness in storytelling."

Proving that ideas never die in Hollywood, RKO is mining its storied past for tomorrow's films. The studio is working on new takes of its 1943 thriller *I Walked With a Zombie* and the 1948 John Ford Western *Fort Apache*, among many others.

It is a delicate time for RKO to be tinkering with Hollywood's past. Controversy surrounds Universal Studios' scene-by-scene color remake of the Hitchcock classic *Psycho*. Critics called the project sacrilegious.

Hartley insists RKO will pick its projects judiciously. That means no remakes of *Citizen Kane* or *It's a Wonderful Life*.

But it's open season on other films.

"The kinds of movies that you want to reinvent or adapt are those where the story and screenplay were sound, but that the movie

either didn't fully realize the script or things have changed so much that you can take the script and bring it up to date," Hartley said.

Clearly, the studio is on safer ground reconsidering old scripts since, in most cases, they have long since been forgotten. And it's hard to go wrong with Welles, an unlikely box office star 13 years after his death.

Universal this year released a re-edited version of his 1958 film *Touch of Evil*. The new version followed Welles' recently discovered editing notes, written after he saw the studio's original cut. The restored version played well on the art house circuit.

RKO is going carefully through its 800-script library, dating back to the silent era, turning up unproduced scripts from such legendary writers as Ben Hecht and Dalton Trumbo. One script, a 1923 silent called *Sherlock's Home*, was penned by a 21-year-old Darryl Francis Zanuck, who would go on to become one of the most powerful men in Hollywood.

"It's like finding buried treasure," said Julia Halperin, a top RKO executive who oversees the archives. "With some of the old scripts, there is a certain style and sophistication that they don't have now."

THE Welles script was known to film historians for years, but it wasn't easy to find. When Hartley and his investors took over RKO in 1990, the company's archives were a mess, with scripts and correspondence stored in warehouses all over the country and no cataloging system. Researchers hired by RKO from the University of California, Los Angeles, took months to make some sense out of the paper, which had been piling up for decades.

RKO, (for Radio-Keith-Orpheum), has existed in one form or another for nearly as long as

moving pictures. It can trace its roots back to a single nickelodeon that opened in Milwaukee in 1909, and over the decades has undergone many corporate reconfigurations under countless executives, wreaking havoc on the bookkeeping.

"When I came to RKO, the company was in the kind of disarray that any company goes through when it's having hard times," Hartley said.

It was a shell of its former self. The theatrical and television rights to most of its movies had been sold off to Ted Turner years earlier. All that remained were the RKO name, the famous radio tower logo, and copyrights on all the material, produced or not. Like other production houses, the new RKO develops new material for film and television, but the copyrights entitle it to remake its movies and shoot its old scripts.

The turmoil that Hartley found at RKO was nothing new. As James Naremore pointed out in the book *The Magic World of Orson Welles*, the company had six different production heads from 1926 to 1933, and by the mid-1940s had gone through six more.

Into all this stepped a young Orson Welles, the radio wonder-boy from New York, who was lured to the pictures in 1939 by RKO with a contract promising great artistic freedom as long as he stayed within tight budgets.

His first movie for RKO was *Citizen Kane*. It is now widely considered the greatest American film of all time.

But in early 1941, it was a picture in trouble. RKO was going to release it in February, but faced immense opposition from powerful publisher William Randolph Hearst, on whom the film was partly based, and his allies in Hollywood.

Kane was released only several months later. (AP)



Orson Welles in his own 'Citizen Kane' was nominated for an Academy Award as Best Actor.

The jazz vocalist who's always hip

By HELEN KATZ

It's something when a man who's been singing jazz for 45 years is named Best Male Jazz Singer for two years in a row. *Downbeat* magazine readers' poll gave that accolade to Mark Murphy in 1996 and '97.

He and trumpeter Randy Brecker will perform together with local jazz musicians in the second of the Jazz at TAPAC series at the Israel Museum on December 24, the Tel Aviv Performing Arts Center on December 25 and at Yad Lebanim in Ashdod the following evening.

This is Murphy's first visit to Israel but Brecker performed here last summer at the Eilat Jazz Festival with his saxophonist brother, Michael.

Murphy's sung with everybody that's anybody from Charlie Parker to U.F.O. and the late, legendary Ella Fitzgerald modestly declared him her equal. He has an heir, young Kurt Elling, who's coming next month and whose voice, delivery and choice of material have been compared to Murphy's.

Murphy's preferences are "romantic lyricist poetry and the harmonic challenges implicit in jazz improvisation," notes reviewer Mike Joyce.

Sammy Davis Jr. discovered Murphy singing his heart out at a jam session in Syracuse, New York, where he was born and grew up.

He belonged to a musical family. His grandmother and aunt played the organ and young Murphy sang in the church choir. His uncle brought him to jazz in his teens, via recordings of Art Tatum, and from then on he was hooked.

In the '60s, while the Beatle craze swept the world, he settled in England where he worked as an actor and wowed jazz fans in Europe. He returned to the US in the 1970s, where he began a recording spree that lasted 14 years, with a record a year. Six of his albums, including the 1997 *Song for the Geese*, have been nominated for Grammys, but he has yet to win one.

Funk magazine called him "a true jazz singer who has never compromised his art."

A dream of a singer

Sabra Sounds



By Shai Tsur

Among young Israeli musicians, Class of 1998, Nimrod Lev takes the title of "most likely to succeed." Lev's

EIN HALOM AHER
Nimrod Lev
Hed Artzi

Ein Halom Aher ("There is No Other Dream") joins several other debut discs released in the last few months.

On the face of it the disc sounds similar to discs by the bands Na'alayim and Rock, to name two other new faces on the musical scene.

All three albums mainly feature plaintive love and breakup songs. All three follow the broad musical lines laid down by the band Eyal Harel: mid-to-downbeat rhythms and an emphasis on jangly guitars. (Lev comes about his sound honestly: the record was produced by former Eyal Harel frontman Hemi Rudner, who also plays bass.) But Lev has one thing going for him

that sets him apart from the rest of the crop: a big, monster single.

Anyone listening to pop radio in the last six weeks has probably encountered his hit, "That's the Whole Charm," several thousand times at least. The song, a duet with singer/actress Orly Perl (Lev's significant other - best known for her supporting role in the movie *Afula Express*), has become one of those local instant classics which mark its particular time and place.

It tells a misfits-in-love story of the kind that Tom Waits used to write a long time ago. Lev sings in the voice of a painter who has fallen in love with Perl, a singer in a bar. "They say I'm only half a man," he sings, "and you're half crazy, but that's the whole charm."

The two work well together. Whether or not their real-life relationship influences their working style, Perl's breathy, baby-doll style complements Lev's glum crooning. The two are backed by a full string section which lays down a plush background for the classical guitars at the fore.

The whole package, with its arrangement and "love conquers all" message, veers dangerously in the direction of hokeyness. Still, the song is genuinely pretty and genuinely difficult to get out of your head.

While the rest of the album does not quite manage to reach these heights, Lev deserves points for effort. Among the other noteworthy tracks on the album one finds "Seven Lines About the Wonder of the Yarkon," an adaptation of a poem by Ronny Somek.

While producer Rudner often draws the musical sound in the direction of his former band, he and Lev are not above experimentation. The quiet strings of "That's the Whole Charm" pop up in a few places, while a song like "All the World Outside" gets closer to white noise with guitars and synthesizers.

One of the more interesting songs on *There is No Other Dream* is a hidden bonus track which comes after about nine minutes of silence following the last song on the album, "The Moment After." The final song, the silence, and the bonus tune are all programmed on the same CD track. This little trick means that you only hear the bonus song - whose guitar work is reminiscent of Chris Isaak's "Wicked Game" - if you forget and leave the disc player running when the "The Moment After" ends.

Better than anything else, even his big hit, this bonus track sums up why Lev is poised to become a star. Here is a guy who is not afraid to do things a little differently, to play around with different elements in different ways. Though he has yet to veer from the middle of the road, the boy clearly has potential. We'll be hearing more.

Masterclasses and musicians

By MICHAEL AJZENSTADT

Over the years, Israel has become a masterclass haven. Every great musician in the world, and the Jewish ones above all, have felt that it is their right and duty to give something back to their homeland. And even when they did not have the time to come and play concerts here, they were more than eager to teach - short intensive masterclasses in which the students get an opportunity to breathe some different air, and the teachers to showcase their quick insight into problems.

Masterclasses are this century's quick fix for what used to be called an apprenticeship. That's the way it was done in the past. And not necessarily an apprentice to a pirate, as in Gilbert and Sullivan's bouncing opera, *The Pirates of Penzance*, but an apprentice to a shoemaker, a baker, a chef or whomever.

In fact many professions and professions still believe in the system, which has remained part of the legal world till this very day. It is less common in the arts, at least in the West.

In the East, as in India for example, an aspiring artist, especially a musician, will travel to faraway places to spend years with one guru (teacher) and learn his craft.

But in western music a lengthy association between a student and

a teacher would never work. Because today, and not only today, music "world" does not seem to allow for, and believe in, any long-term relationship. Even when a music director stays for a very long period with one particular orchestra, he usually spends no more than three months a year with them. A really long relationship, a close one-on-one association, is virtually nonexistent.

And because of this, the masterclasses were invented. Instead of a lengthy apprenticeship, there's the television clip version of the teaching experience between a great master and a willing and able young musician. And instead of the student coming to the master, the master travels around the world and presents himself and his teaching ability at any given place wherever young and eager musicians can be gathered together.

THE Jerusalem Music Center was quick to grasp the idea and over the last few decades has brought literally all the greats of the classical music world to teach there. And not only in Jerusalem.

At any given moment one can find masterclasses at places like the Israel Music Conservatory in Tel Aviv, the Rubin Academy in Jerusalem, the Jerusalem Music Center, of course, and now also at the Tel Aviv University, and Academy - all of which present several masterclasses in the next

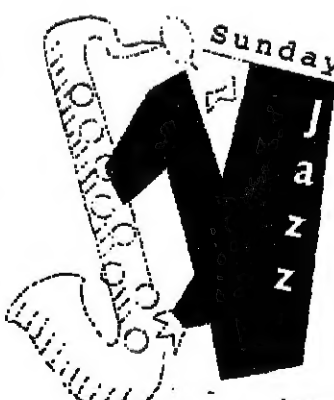
few weeks. The teaching musicians are usually guests who happen to be in the country for a concert series (such as Evelyn Glennie), Israelis who happen to be here on a family vacation or for other reasons (Itamar Golan, Uzi Wiesel, Daniel Hexter), and more (Andras Schiff, Alexander Korsantia). At times, there are also less renowned musicians who are invited specifically for the occasion.

Music masterclasses are usually a very powerful yet perplexing experience.

Obviously they cannot replace the real learning process. And the fact that the young musicians they add to their biographies that they studied with a famous master does not really impress anyone any longer. But occasionally an intensive 30 minutes with a great musician might indeed give the young musician a reference point and an added-value stimulation for the continuation of his or her studies. And for the audience, because masterclasses always take place in front of a live audience, this could turn into a most intriguing experience - given that the teacher does not, as has been the case more often than not, use the masterclass stage for expressing his own frustrations.

What emerges between student and master is a real give and take, teaching rapport and not just an exchange of compliments.

Sensitive, classy, and full of fun



By David Isaacson

Not many of the late '60s musical burlesque artists are still playing their acts: Frank

COMING HOME JAMAICA
Art Ensemble of Chicago
(Hed Artzi)

THE ODYSSEY OF FUNK & POPULAR MUSIC VOL I
Lester Bowie Brass Fantasy
(Hed Artzi)

Zappa died in 1993, the members of Charlie Haden's Liberation Music Orchestra have long since gone

their separate ways, and former hippies now clown around on Wall Street. In the case of Lester Bowie's Art Ensemble of Chicago however, the burlesque goes on, to hugely entertaining effect.

Coming Home Jamaica, recorded on that island in 1995-6, finds the original band's core members - trumpeter Bowie (pronounced Booy), saxophonist Roscoe Mitchell and bassist Malachi Favors - concentrating on the music as they quote a variety of genres (blues, swing, calypso, reggae, rap) without losing their own inimitable rhythms and spontaneous, fun-based humor.

For all its antics - Bowie dresses in a doctor's coat and top hat, the others wear tribal face paint - the band lives up to what would otherwise be a pretentious name, its deliveries of diverse melodies backed by polyrhythmic beats are sensitive, classy and, on "Strawberry Mango" in particular, seductive.

The melancholia of "Malachi" shows how gracefully the musicians have aged. The often po-faced world of jazz could do with more such wit and wisdom.

IT GETS it on *The Odyssey of Funk & Popular Music Vol I*. The Lester

Bowie Brass Fantasy, consisting of four trumpets, three trombones, a French horn, a tuba and two percussionists, tackles a wide range of titles, from a "Nessun Dorma" which alternates between the moving and the wacked out, to a touchingly respectful version of the Spice Girls' "Two Become One."

Where Jamaica is mature and restrained, *Odyssey* is exuberant. Where Jamaica nods at the jazz genres (at one point quoting directly from "Moanin'"), *Odyssey* is a full-blown, often satirical exploration of assorted cultures.

"The Birth of the Blues" has relatively little to do with the Muddy Waters tradition but rather evokes the ecstatic spirit of a New Orleans funeral. Similarly, "Don't Cry For Me Argentina" is less a sentimental ode about Eva Peron than it is a study of the wider world of tango.

Listening to *Odyssey*, you sometimes have to check that a car outside isn't hooting its horn. Bowie never promised to abandon the sound of the streets. And the stand-out track, "Notorious Thugs," featuring the scat-meets-rap vocals of Dean Bowman, wouldn't be out of place in the meanest of today's streets.

At 57, Bowie is still relevant, so check him out.

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סניף מן האוכל

Is this specialist showing caring or cupidity?



By Judy Siegel-Itzkovich

My 13-year-old daughter is undergoing treatment by an orthodontist. He suggested that I bring in my eight-year-old son for a "free exam" to see how straight his teeth are. Is there any advantage to taking a young child to see an orthodontist, or is my daughter's specialist just looking for more business? Can early diagnosis and treatment reduce the bother and cost of orthodontic treatment later? M.N., Tel Aviv.

Prof. J.M. of the Hebrew University-Hadassah School of Dental Medicine replies:

Your orthodontist did not make the offer to get more business. Occlusion problems tend to run in families, so if one child needs orthodontic treatment, there's quite a good chance that one sibling or more may need it too.

I'm not aware of any specific studies, but there is a possibility that "intermarriage" of various Jewish ethnic groups in Israel, some physically larger and taller and some smaller and shorter, causes the appearance in their children of large teeth in smaller jaws; this can result in crooked teeth or a bad bite.

It is advisable for siblings of youngsters receiving orthodontic treatment, or any child, to go to an orthodontist at the age of eight, nine or 10, even before they have all their permanent teeth. If a problem is detected, it can often be corrected simply with a tooth extraction or a simple orthodontic device, minimizing or eliminating the need for more expensive orthodontic treatment later.

Various foreign toothpaste companies have recently been selling products that claim to whiten teeth. Do these really work? There are no warnings on them: Do they harm the tooth enamel or artificial crowns? D.T., Arad.

Prof. J.M. answers this query too:

These toothpastes contain abrasive material that does whiten the teeth, but only their exterior. They don't affect the interior of the tooth, which could become darker due to aging (the yellow- or gray-colored dentine below the enamel thickens as we get older, so the teeth lose their whiteness). Other reasons for change in color are nicotine from smoking, tetracycline antibiotics taken at a young age or too much fluoride consumed early in life, causing fluorosis spots.

The most common whitening agent is bicarbonate of soda, which is abrasive if applied directly to the teeth over time.

The more abrasive the toothpastes, the more they will reduce the enamel layer of the teeth or the artificial enamel in crowns. Use of these toothpastes will erode them over a period of years.

Dentists can also apply bleach, using a special technique, to whiten teeth temporarily, but this too can affect the enamel.

I definitely think there should be warnings on whitening toothpastes about the long-term risks of enamel erosion, and I don't understand why the authorities don't require them.

I have heard of live pigeons being used to treat jaundice. Is there any scientific basis for this practice, or is it merely superstition? R.M., Jerusalem.

Dr. Yaron Ilan, acting director of the liver unit at Hadassah-University Hospital in Jerusalem's Ein Kerem, comments:

This so-called treatment is common among haredim, who tend to live in more crowded conditions, where the spread of hepatitis A is more prevalent. However, pressing the anus of a pigeon to the navel of a child with jaundice – so the virus can "escape" into the bird's body – has absolutely no scientific basis.

We know of no one successfully treated this way. And if the pigeon is infected with disease, it could spread to the child. There is an effective vaccine to prevent infection with hepatitis A, and it is recommended.

Rx For Readers welcomes queries from readers about medical problems. Experts will answer those we find most interesting. Write Rx For Readers, The Jerusalem Post, P.O.B. 81, Jerusalem 91000, fax it to (02) 538-9527 or e-mail it to jusie@jpost.co.il, giving your initials, age and place of residence.



Quite a mouthful – but the payoff is straight teeth. (UPI)

Grow your own cartilage, repair your damaged knees

Health Scan



By Judy Siegel-Itzkovich

O orthopedic patients whose knee cartilage breaks down suffer pain and disability and often require surgery to replace their failed joint with an artificial one. Long rehabilitation follows.

But now at least some of them can undergo implants of cartilage, grown and multiplied from their own cells, making them good as new.

CTI, a local company, has received Health Ministry approval to grow autologous (the patient's own) cartilage cells for re-implantation back into the patient.

Since damaged cartilage doesn't repair itself, cells are taken from parts of the knee that don't bear

weight and won't "miss" them. Eleven to 24 days after their removal, they will have multiplied under lab conditions and can be implanted without any danger of rejection of foreign tissue.

CTI is located in Kiryat Weizmann's Prochon Biotech labs, near the Weizmann Institute in Rehovot – a central location not far from hospitals where the implants are performed.

COMMUNITY CARE

The Treasury has allocated NIS 47 million in 1999 for an experimental program: Five hundred emotionally disturbed people living in mental hospitals, recognized by the National Insurance Institute as "mentally disabled" since January this year, will be rehabilitated in the community.

Hostels and other supervised housing will be provided for patients who have nowhere else to live, and they will receive vocational, social and other help. A basket of services will be set by a committee for each patient.

Health Minister Yehoshua Matza said efforts would be made to prevent the released patients from join-

ing the homeless. Psychiatric hospitals will be set aside for mental patients undergoing acute crises and those needing full-time rehabilitation.

Psychiatrists responded that patients who cannot benefit from institutions should be rehabilitated in the community, but urged that psychiatric care be included in the basket of health services provided by the health funds, rather than the government, as stipulated in the National Health Insurance Law.

BODY AND MIND

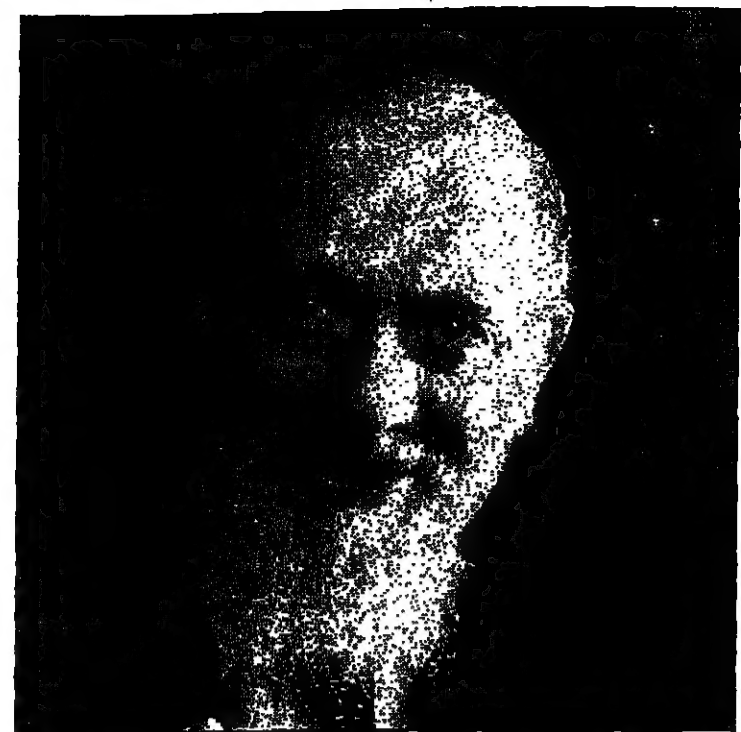
Patients with mental disorders are usually treated in psychiatric facilities, while those with physical ailments go to general hospitals. But where do young people who suffer from both go?

Rambam Hospital in Haifa has opened a psychiatric service for children and teenagers that deals not only with emotional disorders, but also with complaints such as diabetes, kidney disease, digestive and respiratory problems.

A multi-disciplinary staff, headed by Dr. Avi Shapira, includes a psychotherapist, psychologist, pharmacologist and medical specialists.

Patriarch Jacob knew a thing or two about heredity

An unusual conference on medical ethics and human reproduction held recently in Jerusalem touched on Genesis and the pre-implantation diagnosis of genetic diseases. Judy Siegel-Itzkovich reports



Lord Jakobovits: Jews' great contribution to medical ethics has only recently become well known.

The patriarch Jacob preceded by millennia the 19th-century Austrian monk, Gregor Mendel, in understanding the principles of heredity – at least that's the opinion of Lord Winston, one of the world's leading experts in reproductive medicine, and an Orthodox Jew.

Speaking at an unusual conference on medical ethics and human reproduction organized by the Israel-British Business Council and held earlier this month at Hadassah-University Hospital on Jerusalem's Mt. Scopus, Prof. Robert Winston said that Jacob knew what he was doing when he asked his father-in-law Laban for a chance to become independently wealthy.

An experienced shepherd, Jacob asked that Laban keep all the speckled and spotted sheep and goats, leaving Jacob the white ones. Only speckled and spotted offspring of these white animals, recalled Winston, would be Jacob's property.

Genesis describes how Jacob took dark-colored branches of poplar, almond and plane trees, whittled white streaks in them and set them down near the watering troughs where the flocks came to drink.

The white ewes and she-goats conceived there, and the Bible seems to imply that the sight of the rods brought forth streaked, speckled and spotted offspring that then became Jacob's property. And Jacob ensured that the stronger animals mated with other sturdy ones, while the feeble remained Laban's.

This was a clever ruse on Jacob's part, explained the British gynecologist/obstetrician.

"Jacob, who knew much more about animals than Laban, had identified the white sheep and goats that bore recessive genes for speckling and spotting. When these were mated, speckled and spotted offspring were produced – it was not any environmental influence of seeing the tampered sticks when they conceived."

Then, about four millennia later, came Dolly, the cloned ewe. Winston disparaged the "extra-

ordinary ignorance of science and the outpouring of pseudo-science" in the media and various public forums around the world when, a couple of years ago, Dr. Ian Helmut of the Roslin Institute announced that he had cloned Dolly by transferring an adult sheep's cell nucleus into an immature egg cell.

"People thought human cloning was just around the corner, that it would take maybe two years. But it's still not here; even if it were, it wouldn't shake the foundations of our society," Winston declared.

It took 400 embryos in trial-and-error experiments to produce Dolly; many of these were deformed and had abnormal organs.

Using human embryos, which are much less likely to implant themselves, would require a battery of 1,000 human uteruses to produce a human clone.

"Even in Saddam Hussein's Iraq, this wouldn't be easy."

WHAT the media and the public didn't realize, Winston noted, is that Helmut had made a basic biological discovery: that a whole genome can be reprogrammed.

During one's lifetime, some genes are expressed every day, like those that produce acids for digestion. But others express themselves only once in a lifetime – as in a fertilized egg, whose gene regulated implantation in the uterus and then was never used again.

Dolly, he continued, provides a profound understanding of how genes can be reprogrammed for different uses: used with cancer cells, this understanding could eventually enlighten scientists on how, why and when cancer cells are "turned on" to cause the growth of tumors.

Other reproductive techniques developed in recent years are much more important than cloning, Winston insisted. Among these are pre-implantation diagnosis of genetic diseases.

A cell can be removed from a few-celled embryo produced by in-vitro fertilization; scientists can

examine the cell to look for the defective DNA that causes Tay-Sachs disease, Huntington's chorea (a horrible progressive neurological disease that debilitates and kills after age 40), cystic fibrosis or muscular dystrophy.

They can even determine the sex of the embryo by searching for a Y (male) chromosome and return only female embryos to the womb, enabling the birth of a healthy daughter.

The potential for benefit is great, since 5,000 inherited disorders are dependent on a single defective gene.

But, added the British expert – who performed the world's first human Fallopian tube transplant – there are many ethical problems involved.

What if a gene that causes curable illness in adults is identified in pre-implantation diagnosis?

As for sex selection, Winston wasn't too worried about that, since if couples "ordered" boys because girls had "less value" in society, there would soon be a shortage of girls to marry, so girls would then be regarded as "more desirable."

PROF. Avraham Steinberg, a pediatric neurologist at Shaare Zedek Hospital, director of the Center for Medical Ethics at Hebrew University-Hadassah Medical School and also an Orthodox Jew, said that any technology or treatment that improves health should be welcomed if it doesn't violate Jewish law.

The current era is fundamentally different from any that preceded it, Steinberg pointed out.

"Any discovery or development used to take many years until it could be applied. But now it gets onto the Internet immediately and can quickly be applied."

"The pace of scientific discovery is so rapid that we don't have the luxury of waiting to deal with the ethical dilemmas."

The lesson is not to leave things undiscussed; the implications of cloning must be dealt with, Steinberg said, even if their use on humans is distant or unlikely.

Nothing in Jewish law inherently prohibits producing a human clone, Steinberg continued. "The only concern from the Jewish point of view is the balance between benefit and damage that would result from such a process."

Steinberg noted that when surrogate motherhood and ova donations were legalized in Israel, the question was: Who is a baby's mother?

If human cloning becomes possible, he said, the questions will be: Who is a baby's father? What is the status of the children? "We must think about these things in advance," the neurologist urged.

As for gene therapy, Steinberg saw no objection as long as it had a beneficial medical purpose.

"There would be no difference between that and giving antibiotics to a patient with pneumonia. The problem would be if genes were manipulated for social purposes – to boost intelligence or beauty."

"I don't know the answer. It depends on where such treatments would lead us – there's always the danger of the slippery slope."

LORD Jakobovits, the former chief rabbi of Britain in whose honor a Jewish medical ethics center was established at Ben-Gurion University, said that despite Jewish excellence in medicine and in ethical studies, the great contributions of Jews to medical ethics were not well known until recently.

There wasn't a single mention of Jewish medical ethics in the 1901 edition of the *Jewish Encyclopedia*, he said, but 70 years later, the *Encyclopedia Judaica* had a dozen entries on this subject. "I know," because I wrote most of them. The only people who had access to such issues were those who studied Talmud."

The brass tacks of supervising and controlling assisted reproductive techniques were discussed in detail by Suzanne McCarthy, a Cambridge University-trained lawyer who heads Britain's Human Fertilization and Embryology Authority (HFEA).

It was established in 1991 – 13 years after the birth of the first IVF baby, Louise Brown. The authority has 21 members appointed by the secretary of state for health; they are not representatives of groups but experts from a variety of fields, including physicians, religious leaders, ethicists, psychologists and journalists.

It supervises 112 licensed clinics, which treated a total of 26,000 people last year by artificial insemination and in-vitro fertilization, and keeps a highly confidential database so children produced can learn who their parents are when they reach adulthood.

Dr. Carmel Shalev, a lawyer and former legal adviser of the Health Ministry who is now head of the unit of health rights and ethics at Sheba Hospital's Gerner Institute for Health Policy Research, said IVF is a "cultural obsession" here – despite the great expense – because of the social pressures and government interest in more [Jewish] babies.

While it is desirable for infertile couples who really want children to have them, Shalev said, infertile women are made to feel "inadequate."

She insisted that not being a parent should be a respected option, even in Israel.



After Dolly, people thought human cloning was just around the corner – but it took 400 embryos to produce Dolly. Producing one human clone would require a battery of 1,000 human uteruses. (Reuters)

Nuts to you – really!

By DANCY SPITZ

Nuts to you! A new study says that eating nuts can no longer be considered derogatory expressions.

Scientists reporting to a recent American Heart Association conference in Dallas have found that eating nuts and oils can help prevent death from heart disease.

In a 12-year study of 22,071 doctors, they found that men whose diets contained high quantities of nuts had a lower risk of dying from heart disease, says the study's lead author, Dr. Christine Albert of the Harvard Medical School in Boston.

Albert's team notes that nuts contain unsaturated fats including alpha-linolenic acid, which may help prevent fatal disturbances in

the heart's rhythm. In a separate study at Boston's Tufts University – funded by Quaker Oats but reaching independent, scientific conclusions – another group of researchers examined 43 men and women eating a diet rich in oats.

People on the diet had lower blood pressure and reduced levels of cholesterol at the end of the study. High blood pressure and high cholesterol are risk factors for heart attack and stroke.

The oat diet lowered total blood levels of cholesterol by 34 milligrams per deciliter (mg/dL), while study participants who ate a diet that substituted wheat for oats lowered their cholesterol only 13 mg/dL.

The individuals' blood levels of

low-density lipoprotein cholesterol (LDL or "bad" cholesterol) – which can accumulate in blood vessels, increasing risk of a heart attack or stroke – followed the same pattern: The oat group's LDL was 23 mg/dL lower and the wheat group's LDL was 8 mg/dL lower.

Also, the people in the oat group reduced their systolic (top number) blood pressure by 7 millimeters of mercury (mm/Hg) at the end of the six-week study compared to 2 mm/Hg for the wheat group.

"Blood pressure lowering is generally a good thing for the population. The question here is: If this dietary intervention works to reduce normal blood pressure, can we also use the same method to

reduce high blood pressure?" asks lead author of the oat study, Dr. Edward Salzman of the Energy Metabolism Laboratory at the USDA Human Nutrition Research Center on Aging at Tufts.

SALZMAN attributes the benefits of oats to its soluble fiber. "There are several reasons why foods such as oats that contain soluble fiber could have beneficial effects on blood pressure or cholesterol. The presence of soluble fiber in foods slows the rate of digestion and absorption."

The slower digestion causes a more gradual rise in insulin levels. Insulin is a hormone that helps regulate blood sugar, but it may raise blood pressure in some individuals. "There may be other as yet unidentified factors in oats that affect the way the blood vessels react," says Salzman.

The men and women in the study ate one of two calorie-controlled diets. Researchers determined each individual's maintenance caloric needs, then gave them each 1,000 fewer calories than each person's maintenance level each day.

The study group was given an oat-rich diet. The control group – used as a comparison standard – ate a diet that substituted wheat for oats.

The two diets differed mainly in the amount of soluble fiber. Oats contain more of this fiber than the same quantity of wheat. Other foods high in soluble fiber are barley, lentils, pinto beans, black beans and citrus fruits.

Salzman stressed that his study was preliminary, that more research is needed to determine if an oat-rich diet would have the same effects in a long-term study. He

says the diet needs to be strictly followed for results to be significant. "It's quite difficult to feed people oats for six weeks, but it's really hard to get them to follow a diet at home for a year or two," he says.

Meanwhile, in the Harvard investigation linking nut consumption to a reduced risk of heart disease, Albert says alpha-linolenic acid, a component of nuts, may protect the heart by preventing a rhythm disturbance called ventricular fibrillation that causes sudden death.

Other sources of alpha-linolenic acid are unhydrogenated canola and

soybean oils used in most full-fat commercial salad dressings, flaxseed and flaxseed oil and a leafy vegetable called smooth purslane, which is eaten mainly in Greece.

Albert said her results were preliminary because the questionnaires asked only if the physicians had eaten nuts, not what kind or how many they ate.

Also, other diet factors or risk factors for heart disease might skew the results.

"Most nuts are also high in other unsaturated fats and nutrients that might contribute to reduced heart disease risk," says Albert. But some nuts – like Brazil nuts – are high in saturated fats as well. Consumers need to be aware that all nuts are high in total fat and calories. (AHA News Service)

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	GP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
Bayern Munich	18	14	2	2	43	13	44
Bayer Leverkusen	18	10	6	2	40	18	36
FC Kaiserslautern	18	10	4	4	29	28	34
1890 Munich	18	9	5	4	32	24	32
Borussia Dortmund	18	8	5	5	28	18	29
Herta Berlin	17	9	2	6	25	17	29
VfL Wolfsburg	18	7	6	5	34	28	27
Hamburger SV	18	6	6	6	23	24	24
St. Pauli	18	5	7	6	21	22	22
SV Werder Bremen	18	5	7	6	23	21	21
Eintracht Frankfurt	18	5	6	7	20	29	21
Wolfsburg	17	5	5	7	25	24	20
MSV Duisburg	18	4	7	7	20	29	19
VfL Bochum	18	5	4	9	22	33	19
Eintracht Frankfurt	18	4	5	9	21	29	17
Hansa Rostock	18	3	7	8	26	34	16
FC Nurnberg	18	2	9	7	20	35	15
Munich Kickers	18	2	4	12	20	44	10

Results from Germany's first division soccer league (home team listed first):

Friday: Borussia Dortmund 3, VfB Stuttgart 0; SC Freiburg 1, VfL Bochum 1.
Yesterday: Bayern Munich 3, VfL Wolfsburg 0; Hansa Rostock 1, Bayer Leverkusen 1; Hamburger SV 2, FC Nurnberg 0; Schalke 1, Borussia Munchengladbach 0; Eintracht Frankfurt 0, MSV Duisburg 0; FC Kaiserslautern 1, 1890 Munich 1.
Today: Werder Bremen vs. Hertha Berlin

Bribery allegations go to ethics panel

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) — A burgeoning bribery scandal suggesting the 2002 Winter Games were bought and sold is now in the hands of an independent ethics panel to determine if there was any misconduct by local officials.

"I'm glad this has now happened," Frank Joklik, president and CEO of the Salt Lake Organizing Committee, said after board members emerged from Friday's 5 1/2-hour emergency meeting called to deal with the scandal.

The committee turned the investigation over to a five-member ethics panel that would, according to a written resolution, be "free from any direction or control" by organizers.

The panel's report, to be made public, will be due no later than February 11.

"We acknowledge the serious-

ness of this matter," said board chairman Robert Garff. "We regret any and all embarrassment this has caused the citizens of the state of Utah."

A poll conducted this week for KSL-TV found that news of scandal had not swayed opinion for or against the 2002 Winter Games. Sixty-two percent said the controversy has made no difference in their support for the Olympics, which were favored by 55 percent of those surveyed.

Salt Lake's efforts to cozy up to key international Olympic Committee members — including providing college scholarships to some of their children — have set off a firestorm over the 2002 bid and the way the IOC selects host cities.

As a result, the IOC has launched its own inquiry into charges that some members and unscrupulous agents may have

sold their votes. And the US Olympic Committee said it could open its own investigation depending on what action Salt Lake takes.

The FBI in Salt Lake confirmed that it, too, at the behest of Attorney General Janet Reno, was reviewing the allegations to determine whether to open a formal investigation.

Suhel Attarabalsi, 26, whose father is Libyan IOC member Bashir Attarabalsi, told the *Deseret News* on Friday that the money Salt Lake's bid committee gave to send him to school in Utah was not meant to buy his father's vote. He said he does not know how his father voted in the secret ballot to determine what city would host the 2002 Games.

Attarabalsi said checks for his tuition and books stopped coming two months ago and he does not expect to receive any further assistance.

Maccabi TA in tough spot in new group

By NIMAN FREEMAN

Following the last games in the EuroLeague's first stage, Maccabi Tel Aviv found itself placed in a new group that will make it difficult to advance to the Final 16.

Because Maccabi finished in third place in Group B, it and the top two teams in the group (Panathinaikos, Efes Pilsen) carry their records with them and form a new group with the bottom three clubs from Group A (Pau Vitoria, Varese and Saragosa).

Meanwhile, the top three clubs from Group A form a new group with the bottom three teams from Group B. Groups C and D follow the same pattern.

Maccabi now plays each new team in its group twice, starting on

January 7. The results of those six games are combined with the 10 games already played.

The top four in each group advance to the Final 16 best-of-three series, with the top two clubs in each group earning the home-court advantage.

In the new group, Maccabi already finds itself tied for fifth place, since Vitoria — despite being a bottom three team in Group A — has a better record than Maccabi. Varese sports the same 4-6 mark as Tel Aviv.

Maccabi's schedule

in new Group F:

January 7: at Pau Vitoria (Spain)

January 14: Saragosa (Russia)

January 21: at Varese (Italy)

February 4: Pau Vitoria

February 11: at Saragosa

February 18: Varese

EuroLeague Group A		
Zalgiris Kaunas	10	8
Fenerbahce	10	6
Pau-Orthez	10	5
Pau Vitoria	10	5
Varese	10	4
Saragosa	10	2

EuroLeague Group B		
Panathinaikos	10	8
Efes Pilsen	10	7
Maccabi TA	10	4
Choja Zagreb	10	4
Hamburg	10	3
Red Star Belgrade	10	2

EuroLeague Group C		
Olympiakos	10	8
Under Belgrade	10	7
CNA Moscow	10	5
Uster	10	4
Zadar	10	3
Alba Berlin	10	3

EuroLeague Group D		
Olympia Lybiana	10	7
Villeneuve	10	7
Real Madrid	10	6
Teamstron Belgium	10	5
PAOK Salonika	10	4
Santana	10	1

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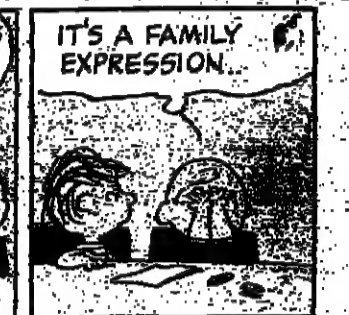
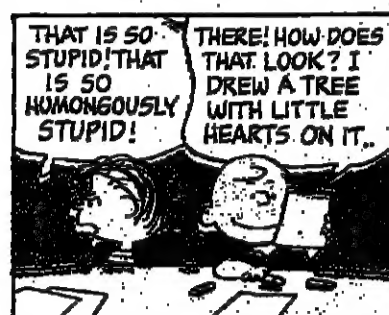
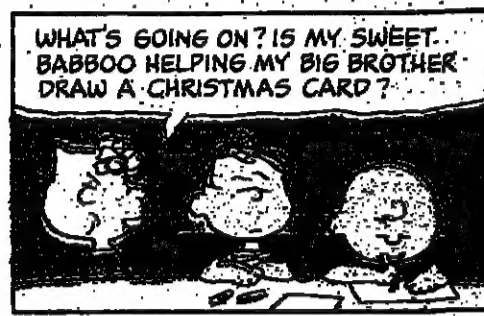
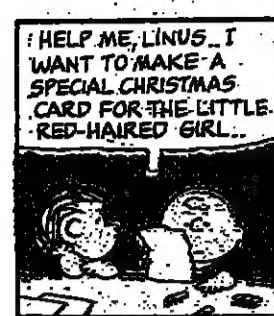
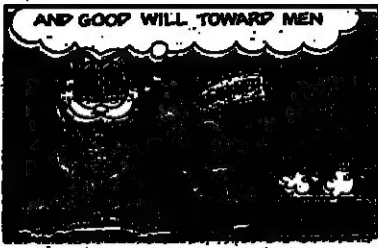
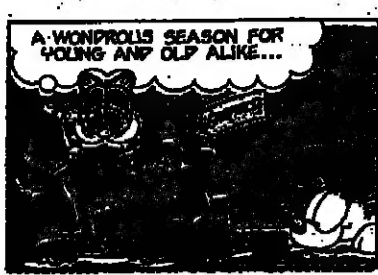
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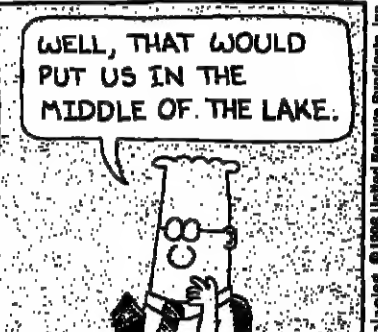
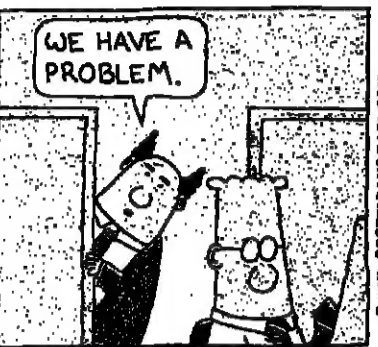
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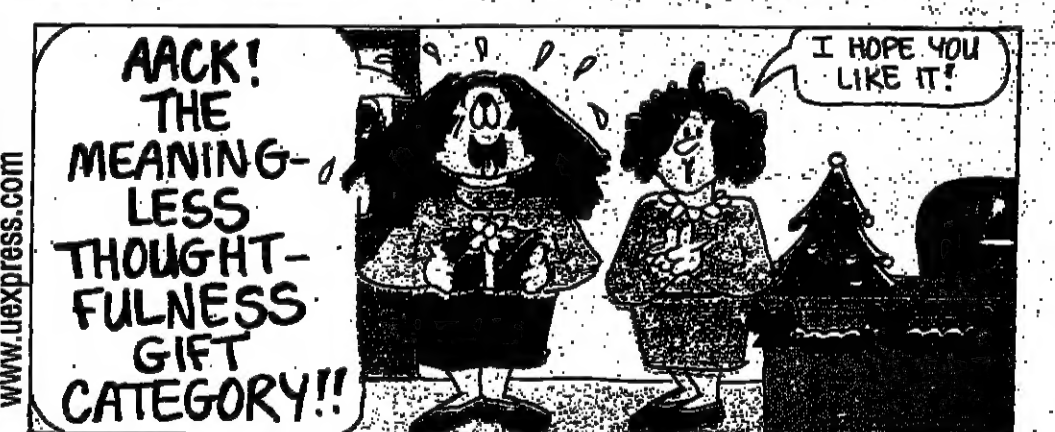
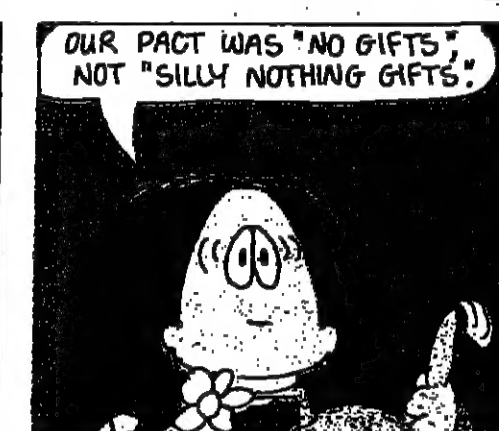


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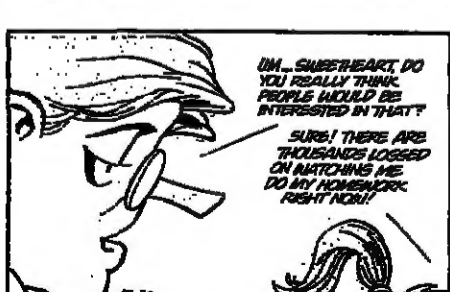
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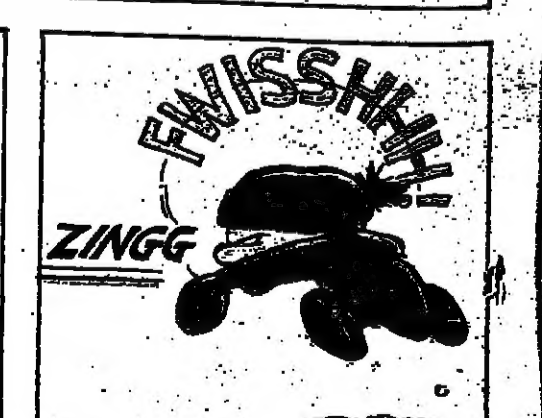


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Hagai Shaham plays Haydn's First Violin Concerto with the Israel Chamber Orchestra conducted by music director Salvador Mas Conde tonight and tomorrow at 8:30 p.m. at the Tel Aviv Museum. The program also includes the overture to Rossini's *Il Signor Bruschino*, five dances and three trios by Schubert and the D major Symphony by Brahms.

From *Back to Brazil* is Astrid Balisan's second program in her concert-recital series, this time with soprano Amalia Itzhak, guitarist Reuben Seroussi and other guest musicians performing music by Bach and Villa-Lobos. Tonight at 8 at the Wise Auditorium in Givat Ram, Jerusalem, and next Sunday, December 27, at the Tel Aviv Museum, the latter an additional concert added due to popular audience demand.

Avner Birnbaum leads his Israel Camerata Jerusalem in four different versions of the Magnificat by Sammartini, Buxtehude, Vivaldi and Pergolesi with the Curende Choir from Belgium and soloists Linda Perillo, Stephen Wallace, Richard Coxon and Simon Birchall tonight at the Technion in Haifa at 8:30.

The Voice of Music radio network artist of the



Frank Peleg rehearsing at his piano

week is pianist/harpicordist Frank Peleg. Peleg recordings will be broadcast from today until Wednesday, at 1 p.m., ranging in style from the baroque to contemporary Israeli music. Today's program features Handel's concerto for harpsichord, Mordechai Seiner's *Levite Diwan* and the first harpsichord suite by Couperin. Over the coming weekend there will be further Voice of Music programs devoted to the artistry of Peleg, who died 30 years ago.

RADIO

VOICE OF MUSIC

6:55 Dvorak: Terezio for 2 Violins and Violoncello. 7:00: 5th Symphony. 7:15: 1st Symphony. 7:30: 2nd Symphony. 7:45: 3rd Symphony. 8:00: 4th Symphony. 8:15: 5th Symphony. 8:30: 6th Symphony. 8:45: 7th Symphony. 9:00: 8th Symphony. 9:15: 9th Symphony. 9:30: 10th Symphony. 9:45: 11th Symphony. 10:00: 12th Symphony. 10:15: 13th Symphony. 10:30: 14th Symphony. 10:45: 15th Symphony. 11:00: 16th Symphony. 11:15: 17th Symphony. 11:30: 18th Symphony. 11:45: 19th Symphony. 12:00: 20th Symphony.

12:00 Music for Sunday - A. Scattolon. 12:15: 1st Symphony. 12:30: 2nd Symphony. 12:45: 3rd Symphony. 1:00: 4th Symphony. 1:15: 5th Symphony. 1:30: 6th Symphony. 1:45: 7th Symphony. 2:00: 8th Symphony. 2:15: 9th Symphony. 2:30: 10th Symphony. 2:45: 11th Symphony. 3:00: 12th Symphony. 3:15: 13th Symphony. 3:30: 14th Symphony. 3:45: 15th Symphony. 4:00: 16th Symphony. 4:15: 17th Symphony. 4:30: 18th Symphony. 4:45: 19th Symphony. 5:00: 20th Symphony.

14:00 M.A. & M. Pick: 1st. 14:15: 2nd. 14:30: 3rd. 14:45: 4th. 15:00: 5th. 15:15: 6th. 15:30: 7th. 15:45: 8th. 16:00: 9th. 16:15: 10th. 16:30: 11th. 16:45: 12th. 17:00: 13th. 17:15: 14th. 17:30: 15th. 17:45: 16th. 18:00: 17th. 18:15: 18th. 18:30: 19th. 18:45: 20th. 19:00: 21st. 19:15: 22nd. 19:30: 23rd. 19:45: 24th. 20:00: 25th. 20:15: 26th. 20:30: 27th. 20:45: 28th. 21:00: 29th. 21:15: 30th. 21:30: 31st. 21:45: 32nd. 22:00: 33rd. 22:15: 34th. 22:30: 35th. 22:45: 36th. 23:00: 37th. 23:15: 38th. 23:30: 39th. 23:45: 40th. 24:00: 41st. 24:15: 42nd. 24:30: 43rd. 24:45: 44th. 25:00: 45th. 25:15: 46th. 25:30: 47th. 25:45: 48th. 26:00: 49th. 26:15: 50th. 26:30: 51st. 26:45: 52nd. 27:00: 53rd. 27:15: 54th. 27:30: 55th. 27:45: 56th. 28:00: 57th. 28:15: 58th. 28:30: 59th. 28:45: 60th. 29:00: 61st. 29:15: 62nd. 29:30: 63rd. 29:45: 64th. 30:00: 65th. 30:15: 66th. 30:30: 67th. 30:45: 68th. 31:00: 69th. 31:15: 70th. 31:30: 71st. 31:45: 72nd. 32:00: 73rd. 32:15: 74th. 32:30: 75th. 32:45: 76th. 33:00: 77th. 33:15: 78th. 33:30: 79th. 33:45: 80th. 34:00: 81st. 34:15: 82nd. 34:30: 83rd. 34:45: 84th. 35:00: 85th. 35:15: 86th. 35:30: 87th. 35:45: 88th. 36:00: 89th. 36:15: 90th. 36:30: 91st. 36:45: 92nd. 37:00: 93rd. 37:15: 94th. 37:30: 95th. 37:45: 96th. 38:00: 97th. 38:15: 98th. 38:30: 99th. 38:45: 100th.

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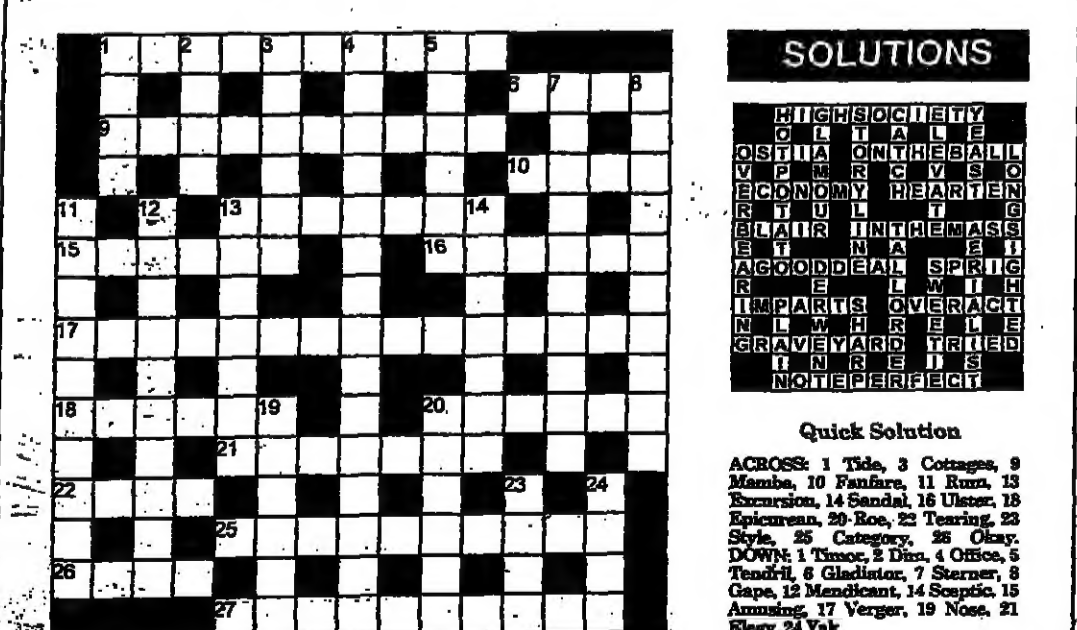
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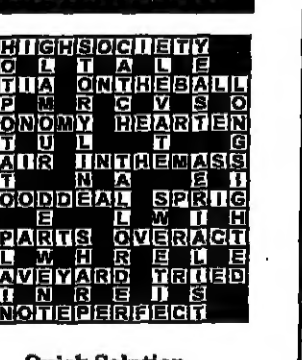
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CRYPTIC CROSSWORD

- ACROSS
- 1 Talkative person in telephone kiosk, say (10)
 - 6 Kitty having a good time by day (4)
 - 9 Police personnel detest vice-spreading (10)
 - 10 Sunday-day in Germany for men only (4)
 - 13 Tin and lead, possibly, with unit of luminous intensity (7)
 - 15 Cutting drug given to Olympic finalists (6)
 - 16 Greek satirist's uncivil form (6)
 - 17 Circus performer given Telegraph work, it turns out (9-6)
 - 18 Get one's act together for famous club (6)
 - 20 For, example, earth-enkly used in factory (6)
 - 21 Poy arranging, one's happy (7)
 - 22 Basil, for example, from another border (4)
 - 25 Foreign painter out to achieve eminence (10)
 - 26 Defile picket? (4)
 - 27 Penny-pinching, urge non-use of transport (10)
- DOWN
- 1 Top player said to surrender (4)
 - 2 Voice changes a lot (4)
 - 3 Sign-language policy to change halves (6)
 - 4 Spot start of Chopin piece? (8,7)
 - 5 American dramatist to make a person sick? (6)
 - 7 A French emaciated ruler, selfish in a way (10)
 - 8 Base to produce electricity on half-tide (10)
 - 11 Agent's office making cash profit (10)
 - 12 Arsenal chief a principal herald? (4-2-4)
 - 13 Channel Islands' seabird in a tank (7)
 - 14 A university assembly, so we hear (7)
 - 19 Way fleet is brought up to date? (6)
 - 20 Taste of pop, long delayed (6)
 - 23 Achieved nothing as Queen of Carthage (4)
 - 24 Limits of ambitions (4)

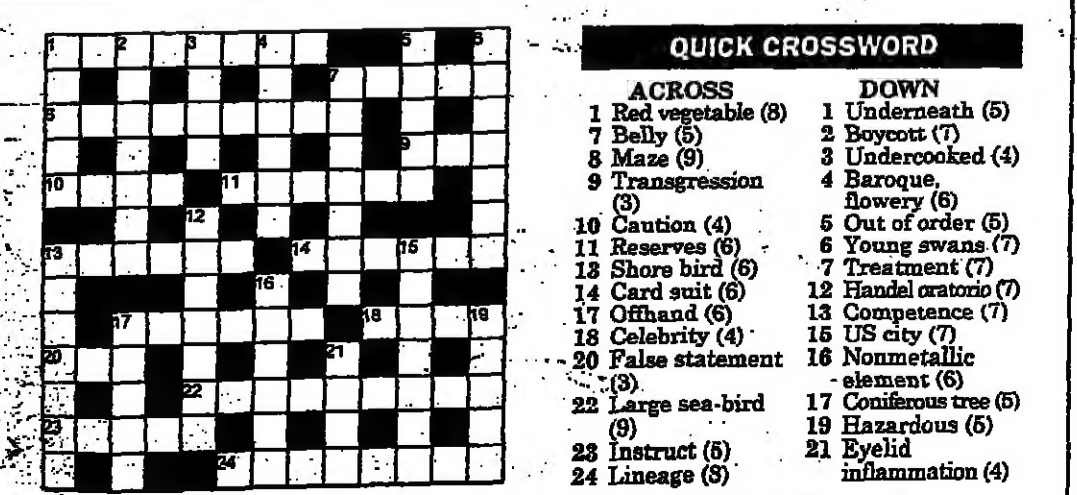


SOLUTIONS



Quick Solution

ACROSS: 1 Tide, 3 Cottage, 9 Mamba, 10 Fanfare, 11 Rum, 13 Rummage, 14 Sander, 16 Usher, 23 Style, 25 Category, 28 Ovary, 29 Down, 1 Time, 2 Dine, 3 Office, 6 Teardrop, 8 Gladstone, 14 Sander, 15 Amusing, 17 Verger, 19 Nose, 21 Slang, 24 Yak.



ACROSS

- 1 Red vegetable (8)
- 2 Belly (6)
- 3 Mace (9)
- 4 Transgression (9)
- 10 Caution (4)
- 11 Reserves (6)
- 12 Shore bird (6)
- 13 Card suit (6)
- 14 Offhand (6)
- 15 Celebrity (4)
- 16 False statement (3)
- 22 Large sea-bird (9)
- 23 Instruct (6)
- 24 Lineage (9)

DOWN

- 1 Underneath (5)
- 2 Boycott (11)
- 3 Undercooked (4)
- 4 Baroque (6)
- 5 Out of order (6)
- 6 Young swans (7)
- 7 Treatment (7)
- 8 Handel oratorio (7)
- 9 Competence (7)
- 10 US city (7)
- 11 Nonmetallic element (6)
- 12 Coniferous tree (6)
- 13 Hazardous (6)
- 14 Eyelid (6)
- 15 Inflammation (4)

PRIME TIME TV			
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Inside

Local soccer roundup

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First-round Euroleague stats

Page 12

FA seeks World Cup bid support

LONDON (Reuters) - The Football Association has set up a worldwide network to try to win support for its bid to host the World Cup in 2006, the Mirror newspaper reported yesterday.

The report added fuel to a controversy that erupted in England on Tuesday when FA chief Graham Kelly resigned over a £3.2 million grant to the Welsh FA.

The money was to be in return for helping FA chairman Keith Wiseman to get elected as a FIFA vice-president in the hope of influencing the bid on the 26-man FIFA committee.

The controversy developed on Friday when it was revealed that Thailand's national coach Peter Withe had part of his salary paid by the FA in a "joint venture".

The Mirror said yesterday that Withe's case was "just the tip of the iceberg".

"Today we can reveal that the FA also has 'deals' with Argentina, Mali, Botswana and Cameroon - all countries with seats on the crucial FIFA committee," it said.

The coordinator of England's 2006 bid Alec McGivern said on Friday there was nothing wrong in funding footballing projects.

"We are asking people to vote for us, what is more natural for them to say 'is there any way you can help us?' That's the real world," he said.

Chelsea go top as 'Boro beat Utd

Katash to stay

Surging Ra'anana invades capital tonight

By ELI GRONER

Maccabi Tel Aviv's star shooting guard, Oded Katash, announced last night that he has decided to stay with the team for the duration of the 1998-99 season. Katash had hoped to be the first Israeli to play in the NBA, but after the prolonged NBA lockout forced him to adopt a wait-and-see attitude over the last five months, he has decided to put his dream on hold for at least one season.

Katash was reportedly set to sign a two-year contract with the New York Knicks at the conclusion of the work stoppage.

Meanwhile in local league play, two teams going in opposite directions square off tonight when Hapoel Jerusalem hosts Maccabi Ra'anana (Channel 5, 20:45).

The two squads, who have finished in the Final Four in each of the last two seasons, are both in familiar territory - at or near the top of the standings.

But in Ra'anana's case, the club has gotten better as the season has progressed. After starting out slowly and suffering through the disappointing play of Chris Smith (who has since been replaced by Jerod Abram) and an overall team funk, Ra'anana seems to have found its rhythm. Yoav Sapar has made strong strides, and after undergoing off-the-court problems earlier in the year, Mark Brisker has been playing as well as he did last season.

Jerusalem meanwhile, despite its first-place status, hasn't been playing near the level of excellence it established earlier in the season. The team's dropoff in European Saporta Cup play matches its mediocre league play of late. Two weeks after being blown out by Maccabi Tel Aviv in the most hyped regular-season game in years, Hapoel was lucky to beat sub-500 Bnei Herzliya.

Jerusalem's biggest problems have been a mini-slump by H. Waldman and a thin bench that has finally caught up with Efi Birbaum's club. One way for Jerusalem to reverse its slide would be a home-win tonight, which would assure first-place at the season's halfway point.

In other games tonight, Hertzliya travels to Hapoel Holon, Hapoel Tel Aviv hosts Galil Elyon, Maccabi Tel Aviv entertains Hapoel Eilat, Maccabi Haifa is at home against Givat Shmuel, and Rishon faces Ramat Gan.

Israeli dance duo captures gold medal

By LIONEL GAFFEN

Israel's Galit Chait and Sergei Sakharovsky won the gold medal in the dance competition at the Skate Israel '98 tournament at Metulla's Canada Center last night.

The couple, ranked 14th in the world, will soon proceed to Prague for next month's European Championships, followed by the world championships to be held in Helsinki in March.

Galit, when asked about the rigors of their training, replied that they train six days a week, which includes about five hours a day of ice time, and another three hours a day of conditioning and ballet.

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Dimitri Dmitrenko of the Ukraine took first place in the men's event, and is currently ranked fifth in Europe.

A tremendous upset took place in the ladies' event, as Tatiana Malinina of Uzbekistan, currently ranked 14th in the world, captured the gold. Anna Rechin of Poland, ranked fifth in the world, and clearly the favorite, could manage only fourth place.

The competition ended last night with a gala closing ceremony.



THREADING THE NEEDLE - Middlesbrough's Gianluca Vialli (c) cuts through Manchester United's defense.

(Reuters)

LONDON (AP) - Chelsea soared to the top of the Premier League for the first time in nine years yesterday after a 2-0 victory over Tottenham while Manchester United slumped 3-2 at home to Middlesbrough.

Uruguayan star Gustavo Poyet and Norwegian striker Tore Andre Flo fired the goals at Stamford Bridge as Gianluca Vialli's team, which scored a 1-1 tie at Manchester United on Wednesday, came up with an even better result against Spurs.

Chelsea took advantage of the fact that leader Aston Villa are not in action until they go to Charlton on Monday and went above Villa on goal difference with both teams on 33 points.

United fell 3-0 down at home to Middlesbrough who won at Old Trafford for the first time since January 1930. A 'Boro team managed by former Reds star Bryan Robson raced into a three-goal lead through Colombian striker

Results, standings, Page 13

Hamilton Ricard, Dean Gordon and Brian Deane before Nicky Butt and Paul Scholes replied.

The loss means that Manchester United still haven't won in five games since Brian Kidd quit as assistant manager to move to Blackburn.

Middlesbrough, promoted last season, moved up one to fourth place and are only three points off the lead and a point behind United.

Arsenal hosts Leeds today so that West Ham moved up to sixth by scoring a 2-1 victory over Everton. French midfielder Marc Keller scored with a floating cross from the right and Trevor Sinclair netted with a diving header. Danny Cadamateri replied for Everton.

Liverpool's worst run for 44 years ended with a 2-0 victory over Sheffield Wednesday at Anfield with goals from Czech forward Patrik Berger and Michael Owen, his 13th of the season.

Southampton climbed off last place with a 3-1 victory over Wimbledon at the Dell, where

Norwegian forward Egil Ostenstad scored twice and Hassan Kachoul, a Moroccan on trial at the club, added the other.

The victory means that Nottingham Forest slipped to last after conceding an equalizer in the third minute of injury time at home to Blackburn. Rovers' Nathan Blake scored his second of the game after Steve Chettle and Dougie Freedman had given Forest a 2-0 lead. Blackburn is second from last, with two points more than Forest.

Coventry squandered a first half lead and was held 1-1 at home by Derby and is only four points off last place, third from last.

Instead of fielding its £22 million strikeforce of Alan Shearer

and Duncan Ferguson, Newcastle didn't have either on the starting lineup in the 1-0 victory over Leicester at St. James Park.

Ferguson was sidelined through injury and Shearer, who has missed six games with hamstring trouble, made a second half appearance as a substitute although it was Scottish midfielder Stephen Glass who scored the winner.

Sunderland increased their lead atop division one to 11 points after a 0-0 tie at Birmingham. Second place Ipswich are in action today against Sheffield United.

Scottish league leader Rangers scored a 3-2 win at Hearts after falling behind at Tynecastle. Striker Stephane Guivane scored twice

and Rod Wallace netted his 16th of the season.

Second place Dundee United and will need to win to cut Rangers six-point lead. Defending titlist Celtic remain third even after a 5-0 crushing of last place Dunfermline with two goals each from Swedish striker Henrik Larsson and Slovakia's Lubomir Moravcik and one from another Swede, Johan Mjallby.

Chelsea 2, Tottenham 0 (0-0) After Spurs striker Chris Armstrong had been sent off for his second yellow card, Chelsea struck twice in the last 10 minutes.

Gustavo Poyet scored his 10th goal of the season with a shot that

went off the inside of the post after a pass from team-manager Gianluca Vialli. Tore Andre Flo came off the bench to add the second in the final minute.

Coventry 1, Derby 1 (1-0) Noel Whelan gave the Sky Blues a 16th-minute lead when he turned in the rebound after Derby goalkeeper Mort Poom had blocked a shot from Steve Froggatt. Lee Carsley hit Derby's equalizer from close range four minutes into the second half.

Liverpool 2, Sheffield Wed 0 (2-0) Patrik Berger gave Liverpool a 19th minute lead with a shot from the edge of the area. Michael Owen added the second in the 34th minute from Stig Inge Bjornebye's cross from the left.

Jets whip Bills for AFC East crown



ORCHARD PARK, N.Y. (AP) - Vinny Testaverde threw for two touchdowns and the New York Jets took advantage of the

More NFL, Page 13

Buffalo Bills' sloppiness for a 17-10 victory. It gave New York (11-4) its first AFC East crown - the last time it won a division was in 1969, when it was part of the AFL - and the inside track for a first-round playoff bye.

If Jacksonville loses either of its final two games, the Jets will get that bye.

The Bills (9-6), who lost a fumble and an interception, dropped several passes and failed to get inbounds on others, must go the wild-card route to make the playoffs. They were hurt by Victor Green's controversial interception on a tipped ball with 3:52 to go; replays showed he dropped the ball.

lary dominant at the newly named Ralph Wilson Stadium, where they had won three straight and eight of their past 10.

But these are the new Jets, who have surged from the league's worst team in 1995 and '96 to 9-7 and now to a legitimate championship threat in the past two years under coach Bill Parcells.

And this is the new Testaverde, who hit on a 71-yard touchdown pass to Dedric Ward in the third quarter for the winning points. He also connected with Wayne Chrebet for a 7-yarder on the Jets' first drive.

The Pro Bowl quarterback finished 14-for-23 for 184 yards and was not intercepted on a blustery

day that clearly affected Buffalo's Pro Bowl QB, Doug Flutie. He was 14-for-38 for 220 yards.

When the Jets' fifth consecutive victory ended, the players hugged and thrust their fists into the air before dousing Parcells with Gatorade.

Buffalo was moving smartly on its first possession, but Antwan Smith fumbled at the Jets 21 and Pepper Johnson recovered.

The Jets then used a 16-yard pass and 25-yard run by Keyshawn Johnson, plus Testaverde's 16-yard scramble and David Meggett's 22-yarder on a draw play to set up Chrebet's TD catch.

With both quarterbacks struggling in 20-25 mph winds, neither team could get much more going on offense for more than a quarter.

Then Kevin Williams made a spectacular diving 22-yard third-down catch to spark a 79-yard Buffalo drive. Thorman Thomas, always a Jets nemesis, took a screen pass 25 yards for the tying touchdown.

National Basketball League

Hapoel Jerusalem	8	1	17
Hapoel Holon	7	3	17
Maccabi Tel Aviv	7	2	16
Maccabi Ra'anana	6	4	16
Maccabi Ramat Gan	5	5	15
Galil Elyon	5	4	14
Hapoel Eilat	4	6	14
Bnei Herzliya	4	4	14
Rishon LeZion	4	4	14
Maccabi Haifa	3	7	13
Givat Shmuel	3	7	13
Hapoel Tel Aviv	2	7	11

Israeli dance duo captures gold medal

By LIONEL GAFFEN

Israel's Galit Chait and Sergei Sakharovsky won the gold medal in the dance competition at the Skate Israel '98 tournament at Metulla's Canada Center last night.

The couple, ranked 14th in the world, will soon proceed to Prague for next month's European Championships, followed by the world championships to be held in Helsinki in March.

Galit, when asked about the rigors of their training, replied that they train six days a week, which includes about five hours a day of ice time, and another three hours a day of conditioning and ballet.

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AIR CANADA
PICK A CITY - IT'S FREE
FLY TO: SAN FRANCISCO, LAS VEGAS, HOUSTON, ATLANTA, ST. LOUIS, KANSAS CITY, SAN JOSE.
See your travel agent for details.

THE WEATHER
http://www.aceweather.com

ISRAEL

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Israel: Partly cloudy in the north and west today with a shower or two. Mostly sunny in the south. High today 12-21. Partly cloudy tonight.

Eilat 21/6

EUROPE WEATHER TODAY

Shown is today's weather. Temperatures are today's highs and tonight's lows.

ISRAEL CITIES

City	Today	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
Ariel	18/8	18/8	18/8	18/8
Beersheva	17/8	17/8	17/8	17/8
Dead Sea	21/7	21/7	21/7	21/7
Eilat	21/7	21/7	21/7	21/7
Haifa	15/8	15/8	15/8	15/8
Jerusalem	14/5	14/5	14/5	14/5
Katmon	13/5	13/5	13/5	13/5
Nesher	16/1	16/1	16/1	16/1
Tel Aviv	17/8	17/8	17/8	17/8
Thames	14/5	14/5	14/5	14/5

Weather (W) - sunny, partly cloudy, cloudy, showers, 1/2 sun, 1/2 rain, 1/2 snow, 1/2 ice.

INTERNATIONAL CITIES

City	Today	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
Amsterdam	11/8	11/8	11/8	11/8
Beijing	2/5	2/5	2/5	2/5
Bombay	2/5	2/5	2/5	2/5
Chicago	1/1	1/1	1/1	1/1
London	1/1	1/1	1/1	1/1
Los Angeles	1/1	1/1	1/1	1/1
Madrid	1/1	1/1	1/1	1/1
Mexico City	1/1	1/1	1/1	1/1
Montreal	1/1	1/1	1/1	1/1
Moscow	1/1	1/1	1/1	1/1
New York	1/1	1/1	1/1	1/1
Paris	1/1	1/1	1/1	1/1
Peking	1/1	1/1	1/1	1/1
Rio de Janeiro	1/1	1/1	1/1	1/1
Rome	1/1	1/1	1/1	1/1
Sydney	1/1	1/1	1/1	1/1
Tokyo	1/1	1/1	1/1	1/1
Vienna	1/1	1/1	1/1	1/1
Warsaw	1/1	1/1	1/1	1/1
Washington	1/1	1/1	1/1	1/1
Zurich	1/1	1/1	1/1	1/1

Stern's threat 'weak as a \$5 chip'



ATLANTIC CITY, N.J. (AP) - In this town, everybody thinks everybody else is a bluffer. It was no different yesterday with a bunch of NBA players around.

Remaining steadfast in their belief that there will be a settlement that ends the NBA lockout and saves the season, the players said commissioner David Stern's threat of no basketball was as weak as a \$5 chip at a \$100 blackjack table.

"Everyone wants to make it seem like a false sense of security on the players' behalf," said Karl Malone, one of 16 current and former All-Stars who played in a charity exhibition game at the Convention Center last night (early this morning Israel time).

"I think it will end in the next week. Sometimes when it's Christmas, you're in a giving mood. We've been doing it all summer: maybe it's their turn now," Malone said. Nearly all the players involved in the charity game were veterans and millionaires who are set for life financially.

Consequently, their optimism might not be a reflection of the feelings among the broader population of locked out NBA players.

Still, as they offered reassurances, they seemed genuine in their belief that it would be too risky for the owners to imperil the value of their franchises by scrapping an entire season. There has been talk that a rival league would be formed and the NBA would never recover.

"My man went on vacation, so obviously he's not too worried about it," Charles Barkley said in reference to Stern's much-publicized holiday trip to Aspen, Colorado.

"This is about money, a lot of money. The owners

are greedy and the players are greedy. I can sympathize with both. I don't care about either one of them. I just want it to get resolved because it's not good for the game of basketball."

NBA spokesman Chris Brienza said no undue significance should be attached to Stern's statement Friday that the cancellation of the season was "virtually inevitable."

The first 2 1/2 months of the season already have been lost and a deal needs to be reached soon in order to save the season. The opposing sides are fighting over the rules for dividing about \$2 billion in annual revenue.

Barkley: Jordan not coming back

Michael Jordan will retire as soon as the NBA lockout ends, according to Charles Barkley. "Michael is done," Barkley said yesterday. "Let me tell you something, you can hope and hope and hope, but Michael is gone. He's not going to play anymore. He's just waiting for the lockout to end. Everybody keeps trying to make him play, or ask if he will play if they shorten the season. But he has said from Day 1 he's not going to play. Let the man enjoy the rest of his life. I'm more concerned about the other 399 guys."

As for his own future, Barkley said he has been in contact with six teams he would like to play for - all of which have a shot at winning a championship.

Coming off hernia surgery and a shoulder operation, Barkley did not play in the exhibition game but coached one of the teams.

He will be a free agent when - or if - the lockout ends. "I want to stay in Houston," he said. "If they sign Scottie (Pippen) or (Antonio) McDyess, our team would be very good."

"The Knicks are a team I will consider. I'd love to play with Ewing and Houston," Barkley refused to disclose the six teams he's interested in "because it's actually illegal that I've been talking to them."